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CULTURAL HISTORY  
FROM THE  
VĀYU PURĀṆA



Deccan College Dissertation Series

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CULTURAL HISTORY  
FROM THE  
VĀYU PURĀNA

BY  
D. R. PATIL

DECCAN COLLEGE  
Postgraduate and Research Institute  
POONA

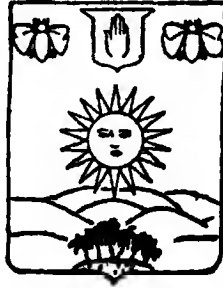
# CULTURAL HISTORY FROM THE VĀYU PURĀṆA

By

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*Most Respectfully Dedicated*

*To*

His Highness, Maharaja, Mukhtar-ul-Mulk, Azim-ul-Iqtidar,  
Rafi-us-Shan, Wala-Shikoh, Mohatashim-ud-Dauran,  
Umdat-ul-Umra, Maharajadhiraja, Hisam-us-Saltanat,

Major General

MAHARAJA SIR JIWAJIRAO SCINDIA, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.,

Alijah Bahadur, Shrinath, Mansur-i-Zaman,

Fidwi Hazarat Malik Mauzzam, Rafi-ud-Darjat Inglistan

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His Highness' Most Humble Servant

The Author

With Deepest Feelings of Gratitude and Reverence.



## FOREWORD

The present volume forms the second issue in the Dissertation Series inaugurated this year to mark the 125th anniversary of the original foundation of the Institute, and represents the first contribution by the Department of Proto- and Ancient Indian History of the Deccan College Postgraduate and Research Institute. Dr. D. R. PATIL has thus the distinction of not only being one of the first scholars carrying on research in this Department, but also of being the first in contributing his valuable study for inclusion in this Series. Dr. PATIL's work was accepted for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy by the University of Bombay in 1944, and it is presented here with a few alterations necessitated by further research.

The field of pre-history is confined primarily to archaeology, while that of proto-history is considerably vaster. It may include sources which at a given time cannot be regarded as historical, but the information from which, if gathered objectively, may throw light on the prehistoric and historic periods. The evolution of material culture in India can, therefore, be best understood if both these subjects are studied simultaneously and their results compared and mutually checked. With this object in view the Department of Proto- and Ancient Indian History at the Institute organized its programme in 1939, and the present work represents one of the earliest fruits of that programme connected with the preparation of regional archaeological studies in conjunction with strictly objective analytical studies of literary sources like the Purāṇas, the Jaina Āgamas and the Epics.

While political or dynastic history has been reconstructed from the Purāṇic tradition, and a number of works have been published on various aspects of religious or social life in India, this is the first systematic attempt at collecting and interpreting "cultural history" from the rich Purāṇic sources, and for the purposes of this study, the oldest Purāṇs, according to generally accepted standards, has been subjected to a scientific analysis. The book is valuable not only for Indian Culture, but also for a critical edition of the *Vāyu*, and consequently of other Purāṇa material.

26th June 1946.

S. M. K.

## PREFACE

With the publication of PARGITER's famous works on the Purāṇic researches an altogether new vision has been presented to the world of scholarship regarding the early history of India. They have opened up a possibility that the vast mine of information contained in the traditional lore of the Purāṇas—which was formerly regarded useless for historical purposes—may, to a certain extent, be relied upon for unfolding the hoary Indian past where other sources fail to guide us. PARGITER, however, concerned himself mainly with the genealogical portion of the Purāṇic texts which forms but a small part of this whole range of literature. The remaining bulk of the Purāṇas is really staggering both in its volume and in the difficulty of its interpretation; but in it (as also in the genealogical lists) are found the various items of information very valuable for building up the cultural history of our ancient past. The present work represents a modest effort in this direction only in so far as the Vāyu—an admittedly ancient Purāṇa—is concerned. It attempts to supplement the work of PARGITER on the cultural plane taking for granted that his works are a sure basis in the interpretation of the ancient Indian political tradition. How far it has succeeded in doing so it is for the world of scholars to judge.

I must at the outset pay my humble homage to His Highness Sir JIWAJIRAO SCINDIA, Alijah Bahadur, Maharaja of Gwalior, the gracious blessings of whose patronage and whose love of India's ancient heritage have enabled me to bring this work to the light of the day.

Like all those students who are first introduced to the world of scholarship by their teachers I am deeply indebted to Dr. H. D. SANKALIA whose valuable guidance and sympathetic attitude have greatly helped me in the completion of this work. I must, however, here express that without the paternal care and help of the Deccan College Research Institute particularly of its Director, Dr. S. M. KATRE, I would not have been able to complete it. I thus owe a great debt to this celebrated Institution. Lastly I must thank Dr. R. G. HARSHE, the Registrar of the Institute, for going through the troublesome task of correcting the proofs and of editing the press-copy especially when I was far removed from the press in Poona.

I have also to thank the University of Bombay for the substantial financial help towards the cost of publication of this work, and the Deccan College Research Institute for including it in its Dissertation Series. Without the active co-operation of Mr. S. R. SARDESAI and his Samarth Bharat Press it would not have been possible to give the present appearance to this work, for which my best thanks are due to them.

Department of Archaeology, Gwalior, }  
26th June 1946.

D. R. PATIL.

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( The topics dealt with in this work are, it will be clear, from a glance at the contents, many and varied ; and thus in tracing the historical sketch of matters covered by these topics we have in some cases relied on previous researches carried out by others and to a certain extent we have not gone to the original sources utilized by them. In other cases, however, we have referred to the original sources themselves. )

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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>ABORI</b>	Annals of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, Poona.
<b>AIHT</b>	F. E. Pargiter, Ancient Indian Historical Tradition.
<b>Alt. Br.</b>	Āitareya Brāhmana.
<b>Altakar</b>	✓ A. S. Altakar, Position of Women in Hindu Civilization.
<b>ASWI</b>	Archaeological Survey of Western India.
<b>AV</b>	Ātharva-Veda.
<b>BDCRI</b>	Bulletin of the Deccan College Research Institute, Poona.
<b>Bhandarkar</b>	R. G. Bhandarkar, Vaiṣṇavism, Śaivism and Minor Religious Systems.
<b>Br. Up.</b>	Bṛhadāraṇyaka Upaniṣad.
<b>Chakravarty</b>	P. C. Chakravarty, Art of War in Ancient India.
<b>CHI</b>	Cambridge History of India.
<b>Ch. Up.</b>	Chāndogya Upaniṣad.
<b>David</b>	Rhys Davids, Buddhist India.
<b>De</b>	De, Nandlal, Geographical Dictionary of Ancient India (2nd Edition).
<b>EI</b>	Epigraphia Indica.
<b>ERE</b>	Hastings, Encyclopaedia of Religion and Ethics.
<b>Fick</b>	Fick, Social Organisation in North-East India in Buddha's time.
<b>Ghoshal</b>	U. N. Ghoshal, History of Hindu Political Theories.
<b>Hasra</b>	✓ Studies in the Purāṇic Records on Hindu Rites and Customs.
<b>HOS</b>	Harvard Oriental Series.
<b>IA</b>	Indian Antiquary.
<b>IC</b>	Indian Culture.
<b>IHQ</b>	Indian Historical Quarterly.
<b>Ind. Verb.</b>	Index Verborum to the published texts of the Kauṭīliya Arthasāstra prepared by R. Shama Sastry.
<b>JAOS</b>	Journal of the American Oriental Society.
<b>JASB</b>	Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.
<b>Jaysawal</b>	K. P. Jaysawal, Hindu Polity.
<b>JBBRAS</b>	✓ Journal of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society.
<b>JBORS</b>	Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society.
<b>JDL</b>	Journal of Department of Letters, Calcutta.
<b>JIH</b>	Journal of Indian History.
<b>JOSIA</b>	Journal of the Oriental Society of Indian Art.
<b>JRAS</b>	Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society.
<b>Kane</b>	P. V. Kane, History of Dharmasāstra.
<b>Mac., HSL</b>	A. A. Macdonell, History of Sanskrit Literature.
<b>MAI</b>	Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India.
<b>Mh.</b>	Mahābhārata.
<b>Mehta</b>	Ratilal Mehta, Pre-Buddhist India.
<b>Mohenjodaro</b>	Mohenjodaro and the Indus Civilisation, edited by Sir John Marshall.
<b>Muir, OST</b>	Muir, Original Sanskrit Texts.
<b>PHAI</b>	H. C. Raychaudhari, Political History of Ancient India.
<b>Popley</b>	Popley, Music of India.
<b>QJMS</b>	Quarterly Journal of Mythic Society.
<b>Rudra-Siva</b>	Venkataramanayya, Rudra-Siva.
<b>RV</b>	Rgveda.
<b>SBE</b>	Sacred Books of the East.
<b>S. Br.</b>	Satapatha Brāhmana.
<b>Seal</b>	B. N. Seal, Positive Sciences of the Ancient Hindus.
<b>Sørensen</b>	S. Sørensen, Index to Names in the Mahābhārata.
<b>Trans.</b>	Translation of the Arthasāstra of Kauṭīliya by R. Shama Sastry.
<b>Up.</b>	Upaniṣads.
<b>Vd.</b>	Vāyu Purāṇa.
<b>Vd. Ind.</b>	Macdonell and Keith, Vedic Index.
<b>VOJ</b>	Vienna Oriental Journal.
<b>Vip.</b>	G. P. Majumdar, Vansapati.
<b>VV</b>	Yajurveda.

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## INTRODUCTION

The history of Purāṇic researches<sup>1</sup> ranges over a period of nearly a century. WILSON is generally regarded as a pioneer in the field. His heavy volume containing a lengthy preface and introduction on the *Viṣṇu Purāṇa* with its translation and learned notes thereon is too well-known to need mention here. [He also wrote many essays on Purāṇas especially on their religious aspects. But to him the Purāṇas were only pious frauds written in subservience to sectarian imposture. He was not much interested in historical facts lying embedded in them. He greatly underrated the antiquity of the compilation of the extant texts and some of his views are now considered as being only of academic interest. Col. Vans KENNEDY, WILSON's contemporary, no doubt regarded the Purāṇas as a class of ancient literature, but he also did not contribute much from the historian's point of view. There were also minor attempts made by BURNOUF, Col. WILFORD and by the compilers of the catalogues of manuscripts like AUPRECHT and EGGELLING but they too did not concern themselves with their historical aspect. This was the condition of Purāṇic researches upto about the beginning of this century.]

The dawn of this century heralded an era of awakening in India in all aspects of her national life. There has been an unprecedented interest in her ancient history and culture. Researches on Indian history have been growing apace both in their volume and quality. Naturally the Purāṇas received some attention as "sources" of ancient Indian history.<sup>2</sup> But the old prejudice that these works are mainly mythological had not died down all of a sudden. Historians generally treated their evidence with indifference and cold formality and that too only for the purposes of 'corroboration'. It was, however, PARGITER who put the Purāṇic studies on a sound basis and the credit of rescuing the Purāṇas from the morass of mythology and of convincing the learned world of their historical value must essentially go to him. ✓ His two works *The Purāṇa Text of the Dynasties of the Kali Age* and *Ancient Indian Historical Tradition* are epoch-making in the history of Purāṇic researches. He began with a tirade against those scholars who attempted to reconstruct India's most ancient past from the evidence of the Vedic literature. He called such attempts as absurd when there already existed the more reliable evidence of the Purāṇic and Epic traditions. But PARGITER was concerned more with political history. There is another important

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1. For a survey of studies on Purāṇas so far carried out by scholars, see DIKSHITAR, *Purāṇas, A Study*, IHQ 8. 747; and A. D. PUSALKAR, *Progress of Indie Studies* (published by Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute, 1942, 139 ff.) and for the attitude of modern scholarship towards them, cf. CHI 1. 299.

2. SMITH, *Early History of India*, 11-2; JRAS 1914, 267 ff. etc.

work of S. N. PRADHAN, viz., *Chronology of Ancient India*, on the subject which too makes considerable use of the Purāṇic material. RAYCHAUDHARI in his *Political History of Ancient India* has also taken into account the evidence furnished by the Purāṇic tradition. DIKSHITAR, too, has contributed much to the field of Purāṇic researches especially by his works on individual Purāṇas such as the *Matsya* and the *Vāyu* and has, to a certain extent, dealt with the cultural aspect of their evidence. There is another important work of HAZRA which has traced the Smṛti material in the Purāṇas and has attempted to fix the chronology of the Purāṇic chapters containing that material. Recently ALTEKAR in his presidential address to the Indian History Congress, 1939, has tried to show how the pre-Bhārata-war history of India can be reconstructed from the evidence of Purāṇas and Epics with the help of the Vedic evidence. But in this second phase of Purāṇic studies much attention is devoted to the genealogies and their political history with the exception of DIKSHITAR and HAZRA.

The old idea of history mainly signifying political history is now no longer accepted by historians all over the civilised world. The scope of history has been considerably widened by the newly born sciences of archaeology and anthropology. In their synthesis of reconstitution historians have adopted two very different attitudes: that of political history and that of cultural history. To the idea that the state plays a preponderant rôle in the life of peoples, that the acts of governments, the facts of internal policy, of diplomacy and of war constitute the core of history, there has been opposed the thesis that the object of history is civilization, that is, a collection of facts on very different planes among which material and intellectual facts are of prime importance. History tends to embrace life in the entirety of its aspect, or to quote HENRI PIRENNE, "the object of the study of history is the development of human societies in space and time." Due to this opposing thesis political history which is orientated towards political action has lost some of its prestige in the West, though the old claims of political history have not still lost their hold on the promoters of historical researches in India. Cultural history as such has not received due attention from scholars of ancient Indian history. The present work attempts to fill in this want so far as it concerns the *Vāyu Purāṇa*. Thus it is obvious that only the *Kulturgeschichte* as can be gleaned from that Purāṇa has been the subject of this investigation, political history being relegated to a subsidiary position.

Originally the idea was to take up the *Vāyu*, *Viṣṇu*, *Mārkaṇḍeya* and *Matsya* Purāṇas for the purposes of this investigation as these Purāṇas are generally considered by scholars to be the "ancient" Purāṇas. But it was soon evident that the work could not have been completed within

the stipulated period and consequently the *Vāyu* was selected for reasons which are stated below :

Out of the four *Purāṇas* mentioned the *Viṣṇu* and the *Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇas* have been translated into English by WILSON and PARGITER respectively and the geographical material of the latter has been considerably made use of by B.C. LAW in his articles pertaining to geography.<sup>4</sup> The *Matsya* too is generally referred to by scholars occasionally and there exists a study of the *Matsya Purāṇa* by DIKSHITAR which, as compared with his earlier work on the *Vāyu Purāṇa*, is more exhaustive. Thus the selection of the *Vāyu Purāṇa* was made not only because it is perhaps the earliest of the *Purāṇas*, as is often assumed, but also because it has not still received that attention which it really deserves.

There is most common agreement amongst scholars about the opinion that the *Vāyu* is one of the very few of the ancient *Purāṇas*, though they differ about their relative chronology. Long ago R. G. BHAN-DARKAR opined that the compilation of the *Vāyu Purāṇa* is older than that of the *Matsya*,<sup>5</sup> and that it is the earliest work of that class (i. e. the *Purāṇas*),<sup>6</sup> but PARGITER differs from him though he says that the *Vāyu* is older than the *Viṣṇu*.<sup>7</sup> He, however, quotes the evidence of *Vāyu* as accurate and as one having the best text on many occasions in the course of his investigations and they have been referred to in our work.<sup>8</sup> WINTERNITZ says that "there certainly existed an ancient *Purāṇa* under this name and undoubtedly there is still preserved in our texts much of the ancient work which is probably not later than the 5th century A. D."<sup>9</sup> The *Vāyu* is perhaps the only *Purāṇa* the existence of which is expressly indicated in the *Mbh.* and its supplement the *Harivaṃśa*.<sup>10</sup> We cannot do better than quote the remarks of V. S. SUN-BANKAR on this point : "The reference in our parvan to *Vāyu*, '*Vāyuproktam anusmṛtya*' (3.189.14), is worth considering in this connection. Nothing corresponding to the general contents of the passage where it occurs is to be found in the extant *Vāyu Purāṇa* as is remarked by HOPKINS,<sup>11</sup> or for the matter of that in any other *Purāṇa* proclaimed by *Vāyu*. There are, however, a few stanzas in the *Vāyu* describing the dissolution of the world where verbal similarity with some stanzas of this passage are pronounced, even though they are introduced in the *Vāyu*

4. See ABORI 17 217 ff. 319 ff.

5. Early History of the Dekkan, 1895, 162.

6. Vaiṣṇavism, Saivism, etc.

7. Purāṇa Text of the Dynasties of the Kali Age, 14, and fn. 4; cf. also C.V. VAIDYA, JBRRAS, 1925, 155 ff. where he tries to ascribe it to the 8th century but his arguments are not convincing.

8. Ibid., cf. also AIHT, 77 f.

9. History of Indian Literature, 1.554.

10. Cf. DIKSHITAR, Some Aspects of the *Vāyu Purāṇa*, 47.

11. The Great Epic of India, 48 ff.

in a different context. The Mbh..... draws upon a Purāṇa of *Vāyu*—and indeed the topic narrated belongs properly to a Purāṇa in its right, a Purāṇa which is older than the extant Purāṇas and which must be presumed to have been irretrievably lost. The evidence for establishing a relationship between the extant *Vāyu* and its old namesake to which the epic is indebted is lacking, barring these few stray stanzas."<sup>12</sup> But, as will be clear below, our Purāṇa shows at places a material definitely older than that of the Mbh., and though we do not claim to have discovered the truth that the *Vāyu* quoted in the Mbh. is the same as our text, we only wish to stress the fact that since it has preserved for us a material which in some cases is older than that of the great epic we may be allowed to infer that it has preserved for us a material which originally belonged to the Purāṇa of the same name known to the Mbh.

The other evidence for the date of this Purāṇa has been fully discussed by DIKSHITAR<sup>13</sup> and it is unnecessary for us to repeat his conclusions here. According to him the earliest portion of the Purāṇa goes to the 5th cent. B.C. and the latest to 500 A.D. On the ground of the evidence of the Smṛti material in the *Vāyu* HAZRA too thinks that it is "perhaps the oldest of the extant Purāṇas", though the expression "oldest" is, according to him, "applicable only to the main skeleton of the work."<sup>14</sup>

DIKSHITAR's work, already referred to above, is the only independent treatise on the Purāṇa. In this work the author has dealt mainly with textual matter such as its name, its place in the Mahāpurāṇas, the classification of its contents, the literature known to it and its date both from external and internal evidence. He has also discussed, though not in full, the data of the Purāṇa on matters such as religion and philosophy, geography, music, sculpture and painting. The astronomical and other data and the genuineness of the historical tradition contained in it are also considered. And so far, we have to acknowledge that our investigation has been simplified. The material of the Purāṇa has been sparsely utilized by some scholars for which we may better refer to A. D. PUSALKAR's survey of Purāṇic studies.<sup>15</sup>

There exist two printed editions of the *Vāyu*. The earlier one was edited by Rajendralal Mitra and was published by the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1880.<sup>16</sup> The second is that published by the Anandāśrama, Poona, in 1905. The latter being the better one and since it also

12. Introduction to the *Āraṇyaka parvan*, published in *Sukthankar Memorial Edition* (1944) 1.156.

13. *Op. cit.*, 48 ff

14. *Purāṇic Records on Hindu Rites and Customs*, 13 and fn 9.

15. *Op. cit.*, 145.

16. In *Bibliotheca Indica*, New Series Nos. 420, 424, 428, 434, 437 and 445.

utilizes the earlier edition (as Ka) we have followed its text for our investigation. Again PARGITER also used the same edition in his works.<sup>17</sup> We have, however, noted, whenever necessary, the important variants substantially affecting the source material of the text.

(a) The Gayāmāhātmya (chapters 105-112) has been omitted in *toto* as there is no doubt as to its being an interpolation.<sup>18</sup> It is omitted in four of the five manuscripts utilized in the Ānandāśrama edition. "On the other hand, it is often found to appear as an independent text in MSS. as well as in printed editions."<sup>19</sup>

(b) Chapters 103-4 also are omitted in two MSS. and, as in the case of (a), are considered to be interpolations.<sup>20</sup>

(c) The material of the Purāṇa on astronomy (chapters 50-53) and its technical details on music have been omitted as it was not possible for us to do full justice to them, for the present. The chapters on music (Vā 86.29 ff. and 87) are also omitted in MSS Kha and Gha and perhaps they did not originally belong to the *Vāyu Purāṇa*. The context also suggests that their place in the Purāṇa is liable to be suspect. DIKSHITAR appears to have overlooked this fact in his discussion of the contents of the Purāṇa and of the material on music contained in it.<sup>21</sup>

We have deliberately arranged the whole work into two parts and the Appendix. The first part embodies the facts as they have been collected from the Purāṇa. No attempt is here made either at a comment or gloss. Whenever remarks are made they are simply to explain the context in which the facts stand in the Purāṇa so as to make their position understandable in the interpretation. The first five chapters contain facts of intellectual culture and the last five of material culture.

The second part presents the *interpretation* of the facts collected from the Purāṇa in the first part. This interpretation is primarily 'chronological'.

It will be obvious that this arrangement has been responsible for increasing the bulk of our work. But it has a decided advantage inasmuch as it ensures clarity of expression. We have again an added advantage in this arrangement—i.e. of checking the source-material easily whenever a critical edition of the work is undertaken; and lastly, we have a hope that this arrangement will be considerably useful in the preparation of a critical edition of the text itself.

The first part essentially involves a great deal of translation of the material of the Purāṇa and in this we have tried our utmost to cling more to the sense of words than to the words themselves. Thus the

17. Cf. *The Purāṇa Text of the Dynasties of Kali Age*, v, and AIHT 78.

18. Cf. WINTERNITZ, *op cit.*, cf. also DIKSHITAR, *op cit.*, 5 and fn. 1.

19. HAZRA, *op.cit.*, 17.

20. *Ibid.*, cf. also DIKSHITAR, *op. cit.*

21. *Ibid.*, pp. 3-7; 33 ff.

English presentation of the material is *litera sensu* rather than *littera scriptu*. Wherever necessary the text of the material of the Purāṇa is also quoted immediately after it.

### A BRIEF OUTLINE OF THE POLITICAL HISTORY AS FOUND IN THE VĀYU

Though political history is not the prime concern of this work still we cannot do away with it altogether. Occasionally we have had to deal with incidents that pertain to political history; and thus it will not be out of place if we narrate here a brief outline of the political history of the most ancient past of India as it has been handed down by the Purāṇa.

In its chapters 85-99 the Purāṇa sums up, in the form of genealogical lists, the account of the various ancient dynasties ruling in North India and occasionally narrates the incidents connected with these kings.

The account begins with the Primeval king Vaivasvata Manu, son of Vivasvat (i.e. the son-god). This Manu had nine sons. (But our Purāṇa actually mentions ten names, that of Nahuṣa being inserted wrongly in the list).<sup>22</sup> It is further stated that Manu offered a sacrifice to Mitra and Varuṇa to obtain a son but a daughter Ilā was born. Ilā, through cohabitation with Budha, son of Soma, had a son Purūravas and afterwards she became a man named Sudyumna.<sup>23</sup> Sudyumna had three sons viz. Utkala, Caya and Vinatāśva.

The account then starts with the different sons of Manu. Manu divided the earth into ten portions of which he gave nine to his nine sons and the tenth went to Purūravas, son of Ilā, who, being a female, had no share assigned to her. The story of the nine sons is stated thus :—

- (1) *Pṛṣadhra* : He killed his preceptor's cow and was condemned to be a Śūdra. Nothing is then said of his descendants
- (2) *Karūṣa* : His descendants are said to have been determined fighters. This is the only tradition about them.
- (3) *Nabhāga* : He is simply alluded to.
- (4) *Ariṣṭa* :<sup>24</sup> His genealogy is given for a few generations and the last king of this line, named Marutta, is said to have been a *cakravartin*.

22. See *AIHT* 255. PARGITER does not expressly refer to this fact. Cf. also *ibid.*, 84 fn. 2.

23. For other versions of the same story in the other Purāṇas, cf. *ibid.*, 253 ff.

24. There is some confusion about this name in the Purāṇic tradition in general, cf. *AIHT* 255 fn. 13. We have mainly followed the *Vāyu* account only.

- (5) *Nariṣyanta*: His descendants ruled at Vaiśālī.<sup>25</sup> The Vaiśālī dynasty came to an end with its last king Pramati (or Pramiti) who, according to synchronisms established by PARGITER,<sup>26</sup> was a contemporary of Daśaratha, father of Rāma and king of Ayodhyā.
- (6) *Śaryāti*: He ruled in Ānarta (cf. No. 38 App.). After the mention of a few descendants there occurs a long passage on music narrated in connection with Revatī, daughter of king Reva of the line. And we are later told that after Raivata Kakudmin had died, the city of Kuśasthalī was besieged by the Punyajana Rākṣasas. The hundred brothers of Raivata—probably his kinsmen—fled at the attack and thus the line came to an end.
- (7) *Dhṛṣṭa*: He is simply mentioned, no reference being made to his descendants.
- (8) *Nabhāga*: A few descendants of his line are mentioned and with Rathītara, the last of the names mentioned, the line seems to have closed, probably because the descendants of Rathītara became Brahmins.<sup>27</sup>
- (9) *Ikṣvāku*: The genealogy of his line is fully treated by the Purāṇa. He is said to have had hundred sons of whom the three viz. Vikukṣi, Nūni and Daṇḍa were the most important. Of them it is further stated that fifty ruled in the north, forty-eight in the south—[and twenty of those forty-eight (?) ruled in the Dakṣiṇāpatha]—Nīmi in Videha and Vikukṣi succeeded to his father's kingdom of Ayodhyā. Of these branches of the line of Ikṣvāku only those of Vikukṣi and Nīmi are treated fully in the Purāṇa; the genealogies of the others are nowhere mentioned.

The important kings of the dynasty at Ayodhyā, of whom the Purāṇa tells more than merely alluding to their names, are: (in chronological order) Vikukṣi, Brhadaśva and his son Kuvalāśva Māmdhātṛ, Satyavrata Triśaṅku, Hariścandra, Sagara, Bhagīratha, Aśmaka, Rāma, etc.

Nīmi had set up an independent line in Videha. His son was Mithi or Janaka after whom the city of Mithilā was so-called (cf. No. 837 App.). The only other important king of this dynasty was Śīradhvaja Janaka who was probably the father-in-law of Dāśarathī Rāma.<sup>28</sup>

25. According to PARGITER Nābhānediṣṭa founded the Vaiśālī dynasty. Nābhānediṣṭa is mentioned in other Purāṇas and is the same as Atriṣṭa of the *Vāyu*. Cf. *AIHT* 96-7.

26. Pp. 97, 147.

27. There are thus two Nabhāgas whose descendants appear to be in the Purāṇa; but the confusion is really about the first Nabhāga. (Cf. *AIHT* 255 fn. 13.)

28. Cf. *AIHT* 95. 147.



After this the Purāṇa proceeds to narrate the dynasties of the "lunar race" (Soma-Vamśa).

The history of the lunar race begins with the story of the birth of Soma. Soma's son, through his connection with Tārā, was Budha. Budha's son was Purūravas born of Ilā, daughter of Vaivasvata Manu. About the relation of Purūravas with Urvaśī we have an interesting legend in the Purāṇa. Purūravas ruled at Pratiṣṭhāna or Prayāga and appears to have been a powerful monarch who met his ruin, it is alleged, through his greed of the sacrificial wealth of the sages. He had six<sup>29</sup> sons of whom only two viz. Āyu and Amāvasu, are important.

Leaving aside the main line,<sup>30</sup> continued by Āyu, the Purāṇa first takes up the genealogy of Amāvasu who had established a separate kingdom in Kānyakubja. After Amāvasu, Jahnu was a very important king of the line and an incident is narrated about him by which the river Ganges was called Jāhnavī (cf. No. 298 App.). Jahnu was probably related to Māṃdhātā, king of Ayodhyā, who was his father-in-law. Jahnu's seventh successor was Gādhi about whom the text has a tale to tell. He was the father-in-law of the Bhārgava Ṛcika, grandfather of Jāmadagnya Rāma. A story is here told of the birth of Jamadagni and of Viśvaratha who became the Brahmin Viśvāmitra and is, as such, famous in the Purāṇic tradition. He figures elsewhere in connection with Satyavrata Triśaṅku. Viśvaratha was succeeded by Aṣṭaka, after whom the dynasty seems to have come to a close.

The Purāṇa now commences the account of the *main line* of Āyu who succeeded his father at Pratiṣṭhāna. He had five sons through Prabhā, daughter of Svarbhānu. Of these five, only two, viz. Nahusa and Putradharma, are mentioned by the *Vāyu*.<sup>31</sup> As usual the Purāṇa leaves the main line of Nahusa and proceeds to narrate the genealogy of Putradharma (or Dharmavṛddha)<sup>32</sup> who founded a separate line at Kāśī, the name of this city having been derived from Kāśa, grandson of Putradharma. Of Dhanvantari, a few generations later, it is said that he was the Divine Physician Dhanvantari born on this earth as the son of Dīrghatapas (who had practised penance to obtain a son and had pleased Dhanvantari). About three generations later was born in this dynasty the famous king Divodāsa I about whom the incident of the destruction of his capital, the city of Vārāṇasī, is narrated (see No. 1403 App.). With king Divodāsa I begins a long contest between the kings of Kāśī and the Haihayas.<sup>33</sup> Bhadrāsreṇya, the Haihaya

29. Seven according to some Purāṇas (cf. *AIHT* 85).

30. This is usually the method followed in the Purāṇa.

31. Cf. *AIHT*, 85 fn. 6, 101 fn. 3.

32. Cf. *ibid*.

33. The *Vāyu* account is somewhat confusing and instead of two Divodāsas of the dynasty it mentions only one. For a better account collected from the various texts of the Purāṇas cf. *AIHT* 153-5, 163. Cf. also ALTKAR, *History of Benares*, 9 ff.

king, was successful against Divodāsa and had taken possession of his capital Vārāṇasī, but Divodāsa later recovered his territory and capital from the sons of Bhadrāsrenya, all of whom were killed in the war that ensued, except one Durdama whose life was spared on account of his tender age. The contest, however, continued for a long period afterwards in which the descendants of Divodāsa suffered a great deal. Pratardana, son of Divodāsa II of this dynasty was a great and powerful king who defeated the Haihayas but still it appears that he could not get possession of the city of Vārāṇasī, which had been occupied in the meanwhile by the Rākṣasas. His grandson Alarka was a great king and the Purāṇa has handed down two stanzas which sing of his glory according to the ancient tradition. He drove away the Rākṣasas and re-established himself in the ancestral capital of Kāśī and had a long and prosperous reign. After naming some descendants of Alarka the *Purāṇa* then closes the account of this Kāśī dynasty.

The genealogy of Raji, another of the five sons of Āyu,<sup>34</sup> is then narrated. He was a powerful king and a legend is told of him that he helped the gods in their war against the Dānavas and later on usurped the place of Indra, who in vengeance retaliated on his sons, and thus his line ended in disaster.

The descendants of Kṣatradharman are then mentioned. This Kṣatradharman, according to PARGITER, was a descendant of Anēnas<sup>35</sup> son of Āyu<sup>36</sup> and the kings of the line were known afterwards as Kṣatradharman and nothing more is said of them.

The *Purāṇa* now begins with Nahusa who continued the main line of king Āyu at Pratisthāna. Nahusa had six sons amongst whom Yati was the eldest and Yayāti second to him. Yati became a *muni* and Yayāti then succeeded his father. Yayāti was a great king according to the Purāṇic tradition and much is said of him by way of legends. He had two wives, Devayānī, daughter of the Bhārgava Uśanas Śukra, and Śarmiṣṭhā, daughter of the Asura Vrsaparvan.<sup>37</sup> He seems to have ruled for a long period and later on relinquished his kingdom to his sons and embraced forest-life. Puru was a favourite of his father and he continued the main line of his ancestors. Yayāti had divided his kingdom into five portions; Puru ruled at Pratisthāna, Yadu in the south, Turvasu in the south-east, Druhyu in the west and Anu in the north.

34. The *Vāyu* does not say so explicitly, but in other Purāṇas he is said to be a son of Āyu, cf. *AIHT* 85-8.

35. Cf. *AIHT* 85.

36. In the case of Raji, the *Vāyu* does not say explicitly of him that he was a son of Āyu, but other Purāṇas imply this, cf. *ibid* 86-8.

37. It should be noted that the *Vāyu* does not narrate nor even allude to the story of the rivalry between Śarmiṣṭhā and Devayānī which is found elsewhere, cf. *Matya* 25-32; *Mbh.* 1.78-83; *Rāmāyaṇa* 58-9.

As usual the *Purāṇa* defers the account of the main line of Puru to later consideration and takes up the sub-line of *Yadu* first. *Yadu* had five sons amongst whom *Sahasrajit* and *Kroṣṭu* are the most important. *Sahasrajit* had a son *Śatajit* whose son was *Haihaya*, the ancestor of the *Haihayas*. *Bhadraśreṇa* was a descendant of *Haihaya*, born some four or five generations after him. It was he who started the contest with the kings of *Kāśī* and occupied the city of *Vārāṇasī*. Some generations after him the *Purāṇa* narrates the story of *Kārtāvīrya Arjuna* who was the most famous and powerful king of the *Haihayas*. It should be noted that our *Purāṇa* depicts him as a great and virtuous king and not as in the *Mbh.* a vicious creature who misbehaved with the *Bhārgavas*. *Kārtāvīrya Arjuna* is said to have had hundred sons but only five are mentioned by name, amongst whom *Jayadhvaja* succeeded his father. *Jayadhvaja*'s successor was *Tālajaṅgha* who, in turn, was succeeded by *Virahotra*<sup>38</sup> and after naming a few of his descendants the *Purāṇa* closes the line of the *Haihayas*.

The genealogy of *Kroṣṭu*, who continued the main line of *Yadu*, is then narrated. The sixth successor of *Kroṣṭu* was the great king *Śaśabindu* who was a *cakravartin*. He had a hundred sons<sup>39</sup> amongst whom six are named. Of these six *Prthuśravas*, a few generations after him, was *Rukmakavaca*. *Rukmakavaca* had five sons. The *Purāṇa* here leaves the line of his eldest son and does not treat it anywhere else. It, however, continues the genealogy of *Jyāmagha*, a younger son of *Rukmakavaca*, who had founded his own line in *Vidarbha*. *Jyāmagha* was a great king and his son was *Vidarbha* after whom the territory, over which *Jyāmagha* ruled, was probably called afterwards. *Vidarbha* had three sons viz., *Kratha*, *Kai(Kau)śika*, and *Lomapāda*. The first son apparently continued the main line in *Vidarbha*; while the second son *Kaiśika* established a separate line in *Cedi*, the name of this region probably having been derived from *Cedi*, son of *Kaiśika*. All kings after *Cedi* are summed up by the *Purāṇa* by merely stating that they were *Caidyas*. *Lomapāda* had founded a dynasty but only two of his descendants are mentioned in the *Purāṇa* and it does not add anything more about them.<sup>40</sup>

The account of the dynasty ruling in *Vidarbha*—i.e. the genealogy of the descendants of *Kratha*—is then given. After naming about fifteen descendants of *Kratha* the account comes to *Sātvata*. *Sātvata* had four sons viz. *Bhajamāna*, *Devāvṛdha*, *Andhaka* and *Vṛṣṇi*. Only the sons of *Bhajamāna* and *Devāvṛdha* are mentioned by their names in the *Purāṇa* and their genealogies are not further treated. The genea-

38. Cf. *AIHT* 146.

39. 'Hundred sons' appears to be merely a formal expression and may not be taken literally.

40. Cf. *AIHT* 102-3.

logies of the last two are narrated but the lists are very confusing and it is unnecessary to discuss them fully here.<sup>41</sup> The only important event in connection with these families is the one about the *symantaka* jewel. The story of Kṛṣṇa's conflict with Kāṁsa is also narrated in brief and in the same connection is told a detailed account of the incarnations of Viṣṇu of whom Kṛṣṇa was one.

The *Purāṇa* then proceeds to narrate the genealogy of Turvasu. It enumerates some of his successors, the last and the most notable amongst whom was king Marutta. Marutta had no son and it is stated that he adopted Duṣyanta as his son and that his line merged into that of the Pauravas as a result of this adoption.<sup>42</sup> In spite of this we find the *Purāṇa* further stating that from this line, or from Duṣyanta, there was a branch which founded the kingdoms of Pāṇḍya, Cola, Kerala and Kulya in the south. It appears Janāpīḍa was a grandson of Duṣyanta and he or his four sons migrated to the south and founded the four kingdoms so called after them. Nothing more is said of them in our text.

We have now a short account of the *line established by Druhyu*. After naming his seven descendants, the last of whom was Pracetas, the account closes by merely stating that Pracetas had hundred sons who were all kings and ruled over the countries of the Mlecchas in the north.

The *Purāṇa* then proceeds with *Anu's descendants*. The seventh king after Anu was Mahāmanas who had two sons viz. Uśinara and Titikṣu. *Uśinara* had five sons all of whom had carved separate principalities for themselves (cf. No. 891 App.). Sibi was one of these five and he had four sons whose separate *janapadas* are mentioned (No. 705 App.) and with this the account of Uśinara's descendants ends. In the *line of Titikṣu* was born the king Balī of whom the *Purāṇa* has handed down a legend to us. He had five sons Aṅga, Vaṅga, Kalinga, Suhma and Puṇḍra. The line of Aṅga, the eldest son, is then narrated, but the text here has some omissions.<sup>43</sup> Campa was a notable descendant of Aṅga and the city of Campāvātī or Mālīnī was founded by him (cf. No. 170 App.). The tenth successor after Campa was Karna of the *Mbh.* fame. The *Purāṇa* attempts to explain why he was called Sūta but the explanation does not appear to be satisfactory.

The last to be treated is the *main line of Puru*, who probably succeeded the ancestral kingdom of Yayāti at Pratiṣṭhāna. After enumerating some of his descendants the account comes to Bharata, son of Duṣyanta.<sup>44</sup> Bharata had three wives and also sons by them but it is

41. Cf. *ibid* 103 ff. for details.

42. Cf. *ibid* 108; the *Vāyu* mentions Duṣkṛta (or Duṣkanta) and not Duṣyanta.

43. Cf. *AIHT* 109.

44. Cf. *AIH* 110 ff. for details.

alleged that they killed their sons because he was disappointed in them. Thus Bharata was left without an heir and later adopted Bharadvāja as his son. The fifth descendant of Bharata was Hastin who founded the city of Hastināpura (cf. No. 363 App.). Hastin had three sons viz. Ajamīdha, Dvijāmīdha (or Dvimīdha) and Purumīdha. Ajamīdha had three wives. About Ajamīdha there is some confusion in the *Purāṇa*. It appears he had four sons viz. Kaṇṭha,<sup>45</sup> Rkṣa, Brhadvasu and Nīla. Of these four Nīla's great-grandson was Rkṣa (No. 927 App.) who had five sons<sup>46</sup> after whom the name Pāñcāla of the region occupied by them became known. This is a very noteworthy dynasty because many of its kings play an important part in the *RV*.<sup>47</sup> The king Divodāsa who is referred to in the *RV*. belonged to this line.

Some of the descendants of Brhadvasu are also mentioned by the *Purāṇa* and PARGITER calls them as forming the south Pāñcāla dynasty.<sup>48</sup>

The descendants of Dvijāmīdha (or Dvimīdha) are then treated in brief; but where this dynasty ruled is not clear. The only notable king in this line was Kṛta.

Rkṣa continued the main line at Hastināpura. His grandson was Kuru who probably founded the city of Kuruksetra (No. 667). Kuru had three sons viz. Parīkṣit, Sudhanvan and Jahnu. Parīkṣit continued his father's line. *Sudhanvan* founded a separate line and Vasu, one of his descendants, conquered and founded anew the kingdoms of Cedi and Magadha probably by overcoming the Yādavas who were formerly ruling in that territory. Vasu had seven<sup>49</sup> sons, the oldest amongst whom was Brhadratha. Brhadratha's descendants were known as the Bārhadrathas amongst whom was born Jarāsamdha who was a powerful king. The account of this dynasty here stops for a while and is resumed afterwards.

The account then returns to the main line continued by Parīkṣit. His son was Janamejaya II and his son was Suratha.<sup>50</sup> The *Purāṇa* does not say anything further about the descendants of Janamejaya and passes on to Jahnu and gives his genealogy and it appears that the line of Jahnu became the main Paurava line.<sup>51</sup> It was in this line that Devāpi and his brother Śaṁtanu were. Śaṁtanu continued the main line at Hastināpura. Vicitravīrya succeeded Śaṁtanu and the subsequent

45. PARGITER does not refer to him in this connection, cf. *AIHT* 110 ff.

46. According to *Vāyu*, but cf. *AIHT* table on p. 116.

47. See *AIHT* 117 for details.

48. *Ibid*.

49. Five according to some *Purāṇas*, cf. *AIHT* 118.

50. The *Vāyu* account is here confusing; for according to the collated account by PARGITER Suratha was the son of Jahnu and the *Vāyu* also says so immediately. It should be noted that some *Mss* omit the stanza relating Janamejaya with Suratha.

51. *Ibid* 114.

genealogy is too well-known to be treated here. Parīkṣit, son of Abhimanyu, had a son Janamejaya of whom we have a story in the *Purāṇa*. The son and successor of Janamejaya was Śatānīka whose grandson was Adhisāma-Kṛṣṇa in whose reign this *Vāyu Purāṇa* is said to have been narrated by the Sūta to the sages who had assembled for the sacrificial session in the Naimiṣa forest.

The dynasties that ruled after this king are treated by the *Purāṇa* as those belonging to the "future". Adhisāma-Kṛṣṇa had a son Nirvaktra and it is stated that while he was ruling in Hastināpura the city was flooded by the Ganges and that he shifted his capital to Kauśāmbī.<sup>52</sup> The text then refers to the names of sixteen descendants of this king the last of whom was Ksemaka. With Ksemaka the line of the Pauravas ends and, it is stated, the Kali age begins.

The *Purāṇa* now returns to the dynasty that had been ruling in Ayodhyā. We are told that king Divākara was ruling in Ayodhyā, as a contemporary of Adhisāma-Kṛṣṇa, when the *Vāyu Purāṇa* was being narrated by the Sūta to the sages. The successors of Divākara apparently belong to the "future". We have twenty-five descendants of this king mentioned by their names the last of whom was Sumitra. Sumitra is stated to be the contemporary of Ksemaka of the Paurava line. The *Purāṇa* thus states that both the line of the Pauravas and the Aikṣvākus of Ayodhyā came to an end at about the same time and that the Kali age began since then.

The *Purāṇa* now resumes the account of the dynasty ruling in Magadha. At the time when the sacrificial session was in progress in the Naimiṣa forest Senājī Bārhadratha was ruling in Magadha. After him nearly fifteen kings of the dynasty held the territory and the Pradyotas came into power. The Pradyotas were, in turn, supplanted by the Śāśunakas. Next came Mahāpadma Nanda, a Śūdra who destroyed all the small kingdoms around Magadha and held sway over all those territories. We need not give details of the subsequent dynasties ruling in Magadha. The *Purāṇa* comes down upto the line of the Guptas who, according to it, were ruling in Anuṅga, Sāketa, Prayāga and Magadha, thus suggesting that it is not aware of the great empire of Samudragupta and his successors.

52 . The reference to Nāgas in the context suggests that their presence in the vicinity forced this king to retreat to the south and to establish himself there. Cf. *AIHT* 285. According to PARGITER Nirvaktra ruled about 820 B.C.

## CONCLUSION3

The results that have been obtained from the investigation may now be stated in brief.

For want of space it is not possible to summarize here the chronological discussion in the second part. What the whole of this chronological discussion tends to indicate is that the source material of the *Vāyu Purāṇa* may be assigned to three broad categories such as : (i) *The Archaic Survivals* which are coeval in point of time and contents with the similar material found in the Vedic Literature. 500 B. C. may be safely considered to be the lowest time-limit of this material; (ii) *The Ancient Material* of the *Purāṇa* alligning itself with the early Dharmaśūtras, the early Buddhist and Jain canonical literature, the *Arthasāstra* of Kautilya, the *Manu-Smṛti*, and the earlier portions of the Great Epic *Mahābhārata*. Broadly speaking, the beginning of the Christian era may be supposed to be the lowest chronological *terminus* of the material; (iii) *The Accretions* or the mass of material that has been incorporated into the body of the text. Most of this material falls in line with the Smṛti works, the later portions of the Great Epic, etc. It should be noted that this material does not generally cross the chronological line demarcated by the date 500 A.D.

The important facts of the material that has been so assigned may now be stated accordingly :

(i) *Archaic Survivals* :

(a) Some of the stories of the Kṣatriya-Brāhmana conflicts, such as between Vasistha and Satyavrata Triśaṅku and Viśvāmitra; Brāhmanas and king Janamejaya, and between king Kārtavīrya Arjuna and the Bhṛguṣ. (b) Kṣatriya-Brāhmana relations such as a few instances of Kṣatriya-Brāhmana marriages, and the case of the Kṣatriya Bharata adopting a Brāhmana as his son; and the references to Kṣatriya Brāhmanas (Kṣātropetāḥ Dvijātayah). (c) The references to 'Dasyus' in the dynastic lists which indicate that the term does not there mean 'slaves' but signifies 'enemies'. (d) The few references indicative of slavery particularly in the case of Viśvāmitra's child sold for 100 cows. (e) The crude facts of the incidents suggestive of the primitive institution of marriage not essentially based on the conception of sexual morality and the peculiar cult of Godharma advocating sexual license. (f) The few instances of the custom of Niyoga or levirate, particularly the odd procedure followed in one of them, traces of which have been observed in one of the early *Dharma-sūtras*. (g) References to the use of chariots, the plough (Hala), and the bow in war, particularly in connection with the dynastic lists. (h) Cow as means of exchange.

It should be noted that this is the class of material that exclusively belongs to that portion of the *Purāṇa* which contains the dynastic lists.

(ii) *Ancient Material :*

(a) Some of the references to the term Vārtā reminding of similar references in Kautaliya *Arthaśāstra* and the *Manu-smṛti*, signifying 'a branch of learning', such as probably the science of economics. (b) Incidents indicating the influence of Brahmins, particularly of the Purohita in political matters. (c) References suggesting that women could proceed to higher studies and could move freely in society as is evidenced by the earlier portions of the Great Epic. (d) The theories regarding the origin of kingship, one of which is probably earlier than a similar one found in the *Mahābhārata*. (e) The references to 'Danda' and 'Dandanīti' similarly found in the *Arthaśāstra*, the *Mahābhārata* and the *Manu-smṛti*. (f) The instances indicative of the existence of oligarchies for which evidence has been found in the *Jātakas*, in the *Arthaśāstra*, in the notices on India by the early Greek writers and in the Great Epic. (g) The references suggesting existence of popular institutions such as the 'Sabhā', 'Samsad' and the 'Paura-Jānapada', evidence for which has been found as in the case of oligarchies. The same can be said regarding the Purāṇic use of the expression 'Gana'. (h) One of its 'table' of units of measurements of distance which as compared with the one found in Kautalya's *Arthaśāstra* is rudimentary. (i) Its cruder references suggestive of town-planning less systematic as compared with Kautalya. (j) Part of its information on the non-vegetarian diet which begins to appear as a taboo in the *Manu-smṛti*. (k) One of its conceptions regarding classification of plants which is cruder and more elementary than the one suggested by the *Manu-smṛti* and Caraka. (l) Two out of the three modes of classification of the animal world suggested in the *Purāṇa*, that are ancient as compared with Caraka who flourished in the first century A. D.

(iii) *The Accretions :*

These make the real bulk of the *Purāṇa*. It is here that the Brahmin redactor has made his influence felt. Most of the *Purāṇa* information on social organisation, excepting that already noted above, belongs to this category. Our *Purāṇa*, however, is comparatively more moderate in regard to its claims for the Brahmins than the *Smṛtis* and some of the other *Purāṇas*. This *Purāṇa* has much more to say with regard to religion, particularly Śaivism which it openly favours more than it does Vaisnavism on which too it has something to say. It should be noted that our text throws a good deal of light on the early history of the Lakulīśa Pāśupata sect. The table of the twenty-eight incarnations of Śiva may help us to bring into limelight some of the ancient propounders of the sect of whom probably Kapila, Akṣapāda Kaṇāda and Lakulīn were the notable ones. That the *Purāṇa* has no direct evidence on the actual worship of Liṅga is also interesting as



is also the fact that the god Ganeśa is completely absent in the *Purāṇa*. This would suggest that even on matters of religion our text is earlier than many of the other *Purāṇas*, and the later portions of the Great Epic. The same can be stated with regard to the information on Yugas and the system of chronology on which our text is less schematic than the works referred to above. That the standard ten *avatāras* of Viṣṇu that are known to the later epic and to many of the other *Purāṇas* are not found in the *Vāyu* is also a significant fact. These are only some of the salient facts that suggest that on the whole even this mass of accretions would not push the *Purāṇa* down to a period later than the approximate date of 500 A. D.

We have so far dealt with the positive evidence of the *Purāṇa*: but certain aspects of its negative evidence, particularly on its facts of material culture deserve to be noticed. It should be noted that it is this material of the text the value of the evidence of which must be deemed to be more reliable; for with regard to this kind of facts the hand of the tamperer is least likely to be felt. No redactor would unnecessarily fill in or insert facts of this kind in the accounts of ancient tradition as there would be no purpose for him to do so. This is apparently one of the reasons why we do not find facts of the material culture of a later age at all associated with the ancient dynastic lists. It is this portion of the text that contains the least information on the facts of material culture and wherever they contain them they only indicate their hoary antiquity. The only plant mentioned in connection with ancient kings is the *Aśvattha*, the most celebrated of the plants known to the *R̥gveda*; the only animals referred to in the incidents about them are the cows, horses and goats, the most favourite animals of the Vedic sacrificers and their ancestors; and it has to be further noted that in these dynastic lists no indication of the use of cavalry in war is found and instances suggesting horse-riding are too few as compared with the employment of horses for war chariots. It is, again, in connection with this portion of the *Purāṇa* that the buffalo appears as a wild beast still to be domesticated.

Thus the earliest conditions of culture, or the archaic survivals, as we have called them, that have been traced in the *Purāṇa* are intimately connected with its genealogical lists and with the incidents narrated therein. This is a finding which is striking in itself for it confirms, to a certain extent, the authenticity of the information contained in them so far as the facts of material culture are concerned; and there is reason to believe that to that extent the *Purāṇa* has handed down to us the political history of the ancient dynasties in their true cultural setting. The case is, however, different when we examine the facts of intellectual culture. It is in this connection that the lists have suffered a great deal from the subsequent handling of their material. The references

to the great kings of the past who are stated to have protected the *Varaḍīrama-dharma* and went along the traditional path of Dharma and their glorification as givers *par excellence* are the points in instance.

It appears that the dynastic lists have also suffered from omissions. For example, it is reasonable to expect that the original tradition as was handed down by the ancient bards must have contained picturesque descriptions of war that were fought by the kings of yore, in the manner in which we find them in the Greek poems of Homer and in our Epics, the *Mahābhārata* and the *Rāmāyaṇa*. It is this topic that has always inspired and nursed bardic poetry of ancient times; but our *Purāṇa* has not handed down to us any of such picturesque scenes of war; and the descriptions of 'war' found in it are too fanciful and scanty for comparison with the Greek poems of Homer and the Epics.

In some cases, it appears, that the *Purāṇa* has confounded the lists. According to PARGITER there were various reasons that caused this confusion; the cultural aspect of the lists indicates that one of these reasons might be that some of the ruling families probably converted themselves into oligarchic or republican clans and their 'genealogies' it would no longer be possible to narrate. It is probably for this very reason that real difficulties occur in tracing the genealogies of the *Vṛṣṇis* and the *Andhakas*. The same observation may probably be made as to why, in a few cases, the *Purāṇa* stops narrating further the 'genealogies' of certain kings, as in the case of king Uśīnara.

The negative evidence of the rest of the *Purāṇa* (i. e. the portion other than the dynastic lists) is likewise instructive. None of the "archaic survivals" noted above are to be found here. This is an additional proof with regard to the authenticity and antiquity of the material of the dynastic lists.

It must be stated here that our observations on relative chronology are bound, in the nature of things, to remain tentative. Still their value for the purposes of cultural history need not be overlooked. We often hear of the palaeographical evidence in the dating of an undated inscription and its value in the absence of a contrary evidence has rarely been denied. Such is the case also of the typological evidence of pre-historians. Our findings have been made in that manner and should be judged from that point of view.

The *Purāṇas*, in general, contain a good deal of information of value on ancient geography of India and some of them devote a number of chapters to this topic. Our *Vāyu Purāṇa* is one of them. One of the appendices gives an exhaustive and descriptive list of the tribal and place-names in the *Purāṇa* arranged alphabetically. There are certain of such names which on general assumption belong purely to the domain of mythology but some scholars have tried to identify

even these names. It would be prejudging an issue to exclude them for the present and they are thus included in the Appendix.

The names of tribes and places in the Appendix are too numerous (about 1500) for discussion of the identification of all of them in the present work, which is not a treatise mainly on geography. It is clear that such a discussion should form a separate enquiry altogether and we hope to undertake it in the near future. The identifications of some names are, however, attempted in the present work only to see how far the *Vāyu* information admits of verification in the light of similar information available from other sources.

On the institution of pilgrimage too most of the *Purāṇas* offer valuable information as does also the *Vāyu Purāṇa*. This information also has been presented in a separate Appendix. As compared with the later portions of the *Great Epic*, the *Smṛtis* and some of the *Purāṇas* our text is less enthusiastic and elaborate in the matter. There is only one reference to a holy place of pilgrimage in the dynastic lists in connection with the king Gādhi and that too in a mythological setting, a fact which further attests our conclusion regarding the lists already noted above. Though the idea of the sanctity of water was known to the Vedic people it appears that the institution of pilgrimage, as such, was first started by the Buddhists or Jains and later on it became common to all the faiths in India. The Brahmins took it over probably in the early centuries of the Christian era and by the time of the *Institutes of Viṣṇu* it had become an established institution.

The terms 'cosmological', 'geographical', 'śrāddha' and 'genealogical' portions of the *Purāṇa* are often used in this investigation and they should be taken to imply the chapters 3-10, 34-49, 71-84 and 85-99 respectively of the *Purāṇa*.

As regards the dates of various ancient and Pāli works, such as the Vedas, Jātakas etc. we have followed the views which are generally accepted by scholars. There is some conflict of opinion regarding the age of the compilations of the Jātakas. But scholars generally take the society and culture represented by them as belonging to the age of Buddha himself, if not earlier. Caraka is said to have flourished in the 1st cent. A.D. and Suśruta probably in the 5th cent. A.D.<sup>53</sup>

## CHAPTER I

### SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

#### SOCIAL THEORY

**Cosmic origin :** From the mouth of Brahmā arose the Brahmins, from his breast (*Pūrvabhāga*) the Kṣatriyas, from his belly the Vaiśyas and from his two feet the Śūdras.<sup>1</sup>

**Mythic origin :** In a prayer to Śiva by Dakṣa the former is glorified as being the originator of the *varṇāśrama*.<sup>2</sup> Manu and other sages are also credited with its propagation in every *yuga*,<sup>3</sup> and the same is said of the seven sages in the beginning of the Tretā age<sup>4</sup>. Brahmā once granted a boon to king Bālī, a descendant of Yayāti, that he would be the founder of the four *varṇas* duly regulated.<sup>5</sup>

✓ The terms *varṇa*, *āśrama* and *dharma* are often related to each other and are sometimes used conjointly. The compound word *varṇāśrama* is, however, a very common expression, and the four āśramas are said to have been set up by Brahmā immediately after the creation of the four *varṇas*.<sup>6</sup> The connection of these two terms with *dharma* is obvious from the following statements in the Purāṇa :—

✓ “Brahmā had created the four *varṇas* but a spell of delusion (*moha*) swept over the people who defied the rules of *varṇadharma* which consequently led to mutual conflicts. Brahmā brooded over the matter again and set up proper limits to the respective functions of the four *varṇas*, and at the same time inaugurated the four āśramas.”<sup>7</sup> The same information is cast in a different mould thus : In the Tretā age Brahmā planned the *varṇāśrama* but delusion (*moha*) disturbed the people and chaos ensued. The people approached Svāyambhuva Manu... This led to the origin of Kingship with protection of *dharma* as its main function.<sup>8</sup> In the very first chapter of the Purāṇa we find it stated that *varṇas* and āśramas were set up according to *dharma*.<sup>9</sup>

✓ *Dharma*, again, is either *śrauta* or *smārta*, the former being primarily concerned with the ritual and the Vedas and the latter with the various rules of *varṇāśrama*.<sup>10</sup> The *smārta-dharma* is based mainly on tradition (*paramparā*), as is stated by Svāyambhuva Manu.<sup>11</sup> There is also a statement that whatever is enjoined by the *Śruti* and the *Smṛti* is the *varṇāśramadharma* though it must not, at the same time, be opposed to *śiṣṭācāra*.<sup>12</sup>

1. Cf. 6. 77; 9. 121. 2. Cf. 30. 218 3. Cf. 59. 35-36. 4. Cf. 61. 98.

5. Cf. 99. 32. 6. Cf. 8. 176. ff. 7. Cf. 8. 167. ff. 8. Cf. 57. 55-9.

9. Cf. 1. 110 omitted in Kha, Gha and Na.

10. Cf. 57. 39; 59. 31-9; 59. 106. 11. Cf. 57. 41. 12. Cf. 59. 51.

The descriptions of the four yugas and the one especially of the conditions obtaining at the end of the Kali age offer good instances of the linking up of these three terms. For instance, in the Kṛta age dharma did not exist nor did the varṇāśrama, but all of them originated in the Tretā age. Theoretically every King was duty-bound to follow dharma and to promote the varṇāśrama and wherever the varṇāśrama prevailed dharma was bound to be observed.

A gloomy and frightful picture of the state of *varṇasamhara* is found in the narrations of the conditions that were supposed to be prevalent at the end of the Kali age that was in the past or that will be in future.

The possibility of the modification of varṇas (cf. *varṇavaiikṛtam*) arises in the fusion of the high and the low (*adharottaracāreṇa*). This is said in reference to the origin of the Sūta.<sup>13</sup> It is not clear, however, whether here *varṇasamhara* is also meant. The *Ājīvas*, who were regarded as being the products of the contamination of the varṇas and who belonged to the class of artisans, were supposed to have *Pisācas* as their deities<sup>14</sup> and the *Mlecchas* of similar origin are referred to as offering oblations to *Pitṛs*, i.e., they too performed *śrāddha* along with the four varṇas.<sup>15</sup>

**Varṇāśrama and Vārtā:**—Brahmā created the vegetable kingdom and set up *vārtās* for the sustenance of his creatures. After this had been achieved he regulated the various limits to the functions of the four varṇas.<sup>16</sup> Elsewhere it is mentioned that after the establishment of the *vārtās* the plan of the varṇāśrama was taken up and the *samhitās* (of the Vedas) were compiled.<sup>17</sup>

The mention of Tretā age in this connection is worthy of notice. In the first chapter we find an allusion to the fact that *vārtās* had their origin in the Tretā age<sup>18</sup> and we are informed elsewhere that the Creator ordained the setting up of *vārtās* in the middle of the Tretā age.<sup>19</sup> Śiva is also credited with the creation of *vārtās*.<sup>20</sup>

At the end of the Kali age the people will be giving up their *vārtās* and will become miserable.<sup>21</sup>

Of Manu and the other sages it is said that they promulgate the three (Vedas), *vārtā*, *daṇḍanīti*, *ijyā* and the *varṇāśrama* in every Yuga.<sup>22</sup>

## II. THE BRAHMINS

The Brahmins' claim for superiority: This claim is implicit in the cosmic account of the origin of the four varṇas. It is said that one who

13. Cf. 62.139-41; also 1.36. 14. Cf. No. 15, App. 15. 63.110-2.

16. Cf. *samśiddhāyāṁ tu vārtāyām...māyādaḥ śrāddhāyāmāsa* ..; 8.159 also 8.128-34.

17. 57.89-90. 18. Cf. 1.109. 19. 8.200-2. 20. 24.103.

21. Cf. *vārtām utṛjya duḥkṛtāḥ*; 58.96; 99.399; also 99.32.

22. Cf. 59.35-6; also No. 1027 in App.

makes others listen to the story of the birth of Pṛthu "after paying homage to Brahmins"<sup>23</sup> need not worry for whatever is done by him.

The sages are often shown in the company of gods, thus elevating their status. They lived with Devas on the peaks of the Meru mountain,<sup>24</sup> on the Kailāsa<sup>25</sup> in the hermitage of Śukra,<sup>26</sup> in Brahmapuṭra<sup>27</sup> and on the Mandara mountain in Malayadvīpa.<sup>28</sup> They even appear in the heaven (*svarga*) with Devas, Gandharvas etc.<sup>29</sup> In the *amṛta-manthanā* incident we find them included in the party of Indra which led a deputation to Brahmā.<sup>30</sup> Their association with Viṣṇu is indicated by the fact that they attended upon that god in his abode on the Niṣadha mountain.<sup>31</sup> They had also the company of the thirty-three gods in the Puṣkaradvīpa.<sup>32</sup> In the descriptions of the various mountain-tops we often find references to sages associated with Devas, Gandharvas and other supernatural beings.<sup>33</sup>

The incident which led to the origin of the *avatāra* of Viṣṇu should be noted in this connection. It so transpired that Viṣṇu killed the mother of Śukra. Incensed at this outrage, which amounted to the murder of a woman, the sage Bhṛgu cursed Viṣṇu that he would be born as man seven times on the earth. But there is nothing in the narration of the story that Bhṛgu cursed the god because the Brahmin in him was roused to fury; on the other hand, we find it expressly stated that Bhṛgu was enraged at the fact of the murder of a woman, which was considered as one of the most heinous offences.<sup>34</sup> But in the actual enumeration of these incarnations we find each incarnation of Viṣṇu having a Brahmin promoter (*puṛuṣa*).<sup>35</sup>

Corresponding to this claim there was equally an assumption that the welfare of the society rested on their behaviour. Any defects in their *harman* may make the whole society suffer.<sup>36</sup>

Kinds of Sages<sup>37</sup>: There is reference to the three categories of sages (*ṛṣiprakṛtayah*) viz., *Brahmarṣis*, *Devarṣis* and *Rājarṣis*. Their characteristics are also mentioned.<sup>38</sup> But elsewhere we find five *jātis* (classes) of sages enumerated thus: (1) the mind-born sons of Brahmā, (2) *Maharṣis*, (3) *Rṣis*, (4) *Rṣikas* and (5) *Mantravādins*. It is not clear whether the group of seven sages formed a separate class.<sup>39</sup> Most probably they were the same as the mind-born sons of Brahmā, also referred to as *Prajāpatīs*.<sup>40</sup> They are also mentioned as *Maharṣis*<sup>41</sup> and

23. *Brāhmaṇabhyo namaskṛtya* cf. 62, 106.

24. Cf. 34, 74; 49, 48. 25. Cf. 41, 48. 26. Cf. 38, 62 ff. 27. Cf. 59, 107.

28. Cf. 48, 23. 29. Cf. 34, 93. 30. Cf. 54, 66 ff. 31. Cf. 41, 49.

32. Cf. 49, 135. 33. Cf. 42, 61; 41, 62; 41, 68 etc., and also App.

34. Cf. 99, 127-42. 35. Cf. 98, 88-105.

36. Cf. *viprāṇāṃ karma doṣaiḥ taiḥ prajānāṃ jayate bhayam* 58, 36.

37. The term *ṛṣi* is explained thus *ṛṣiḥ sarvagatade sa*. Cf. 5, 35.

38. Cf. 61, 80-90. 39. Cf. 61, 93 ff; 100, 49 ff. 40. 100, 34-5; 65, 16 ff.

41. Cf. 7, 72-5; 65, 31 ff; 100, 49 ff; 62, 113-5.

probably were the same as Brahmarṣis, who were the first in the three categories of sages mentioned above.<sup>42</sup>

The Maharṣis, who were seven in number, do not seem to have been affected by the great catastrophe of the Deluge, for during that period they retire to the region called *Maharloka* whence they watch the slumbering Kāla in the darkness of the night.<sup>43</sup> Their origin is attributed to the sacrifice into which Brahmā offered his semen as an oblation.<sup>44</sup> It is said that they are called *maharṣis* because they see (*ṛṣanti mahat*).<sup>45</sup> They are also shown as practising the *Pāśupata yoga*.<sup>46</sup> At one place we find them questioning the propriety of killing animals in sacrifices and advocating the cause of non-violence. According to them *himsā* cannot be dharma<sup>47</sup> nor do they think highly of *dāna* and *yajña*.<sup>48</sup>

The Brahmarṣis, as we have seen above, might probably be the same as Maharṣis. They are so called because they 'see' Brahman and it is stated that only in the five *gotras*, viz., Kaśyapa, Vasiṣṭha, Bṛghu, Aṅgiras and Atri, are the Brahmarṣis born. It is for their knowledge of the Vedas, their birth and *tapas* that they are well-known. They are superior to Devarṣis and Rājārṣis and their ultimate goal is the *Brahmaloka*.<sup>49</sup> Sometimes the term *viprarṣi* is used.<sup>50</sup> Viśvāmitra is mentioned as a *viprarṣi*.<sup>51</sup> Terms such as *śrutarṣis* and *paramarṣis* are also used but it is difficult to say whether they are merely descriptive terms or signify different classes of sages denoted by these names.<sup>52</sup>

The Devarṣis were inferior to Brahmarṣis but were superior to Rājārṣis. They 'see' Devas: hence their name. The descendants of Dharma, Pulastya, Kratu, Pulaha, Prabhāsa and Kaśyapa were known as Devarṣis. Their ultimate goal was the *Devaloka*. Nara, Nārāyaṇa, Parvata and Nārada etc., are mentioned as Devarṣis.<sup>53</sup>

The Rājārṣis were so called because they 'see' their people through their (peoples') happiness. They are inferior both to Brahmarṣis and Devarṣis. They are mostly born in the *vaṁśas* or families of Mānava and Aiḍa. Their ultimate goal is the *Indraloka*.<sup>54</sup> A list of the names of Rājārṣis is also given.<sup>55</sup> Kings such as Damaghoṣa,<sup>56</sup> Janamejaya,<sup>57</sup> Aṅga,<sup>58</sup> Riveyu,<sup>59</sup> Somādhi,<sup>60</sup> Jahnu,<sup>61</sup> Divodāsa,<sup>62</sup> Lohagandha (?),<sup>63</sup> Yayāti,<sup>64</sup> Kārtavīrya Arjuna,<sup>65</sup> Kroṣṭu,<sup>66</sup> Bṛhadaśva,<sup>67</sup> Gaya,<sup>68</sup> and

42. Cf. 61. 10-2; 54. 8; 62. 113-5.

43. Cf. 7. 72-5; also 100. 188-92, which, however, mentioned *Janaloka* instead of *Maharloka*.

44. Cf. 65. 31 ff. 45. Cf. 59. 88; omitted in Gha. 46. Cf. 16. 24.

47. *Na himsā dharma ucyate*—cf. 57. 99; 57. 97 ff. 48. Cf. 57. 115.

49. Cf. 61. 80-90. 50. Cf. 73. 17. 51. Cf. 41. 44-5.

52. Cf. 58. 13-4; 61. 12-3, etc. 53. Cf. 61. 80-88.

54. Cf. 61. 80-87. 55. Cf. 57. 122-3. 56. Cf. 96. 158. 57. Cf. 99. 15.

58. Cf. 99. 100. 59. Cf. 99. 128. 60. Cf. 99. 296. 61. Cf. 91. 57.

62. Cf. 99. 201; 92. 25-6. 63. Cf. 93. 22-5. 64. Cf. 93. 102. 65. Cf. 94. 19; 95. 2.

66. Cf. 95. 14-9. 67. Cf. 88. 45-6. 68. Cf. 85. 19.

Janaka<sup>69</sup> are called Rājaraṣis. Two verses, said to have been recited by Rājaraṣis about king Alarka, are quoted in the Purāṇa.<sup>70</sup> Names of Kṣatriyas who are said to have achieved the status of sages through their efforts of penance are also mentioned. They are styled as *Kṣātropetāḥ doṣjātayaḥ* (i.e. probably Kṣatriya Brahmins).<sup>71</sup>

✓ The Munis are mentioned as if they are different from the Rṣis<sup>72</sup> and at one place we find Maharaṣis styled as Munis who questioned Indra regarding the propriety of killing animals at sacrifices.<sup>73</sup> The sages of the Naimiṣa forest are also called Munis.<sup>74</sup> But the most frequent mention of the word Muni occurs in connection with the various incarnations of Maheśvara and with the description of the Pāsupata Yoga. God Maheśvara had revealed five dharmas and the *gaṇas* of Munis appear to have observed them; and of them it is said that forsaking the human forms they can wander about like god.<sup>75</sup> They can see *Prakṛti* through their inward eye.<sup>76</sup> They are said to be indifferent both to insult and flattery.<sup>77</sup> Śiva in his different incarnations is also called Muni<sup>78</sup> and in his thirteenth incarnation he will be a great Muni named Vāli who will be born in the Vāli(lakṣhilyāśrama on the Gandhamādana mountain.<sup>79</sup> In the same context we find Bharadvāja<sup>80</sup> and Rtañjaya<sup>81</sup> called great munis. The story of the birth of Mahādeva is said to have been told by munis.<sup>82</sup> The munis also figure in the Purāṇa as worshippers of Śiva with dance and music, with the mystic *omkāra* and *humkāra* at *tirthas* and temples in the north of the Himavat mountain.<sup>83</sup> Eighty-eight thousand Vālakṣhilya munis are said to have waited on the god Vāyu to listen to the latter's account of how Śiva came to be called Nīlānṭha.<sup>84</sup> The god Vāyu, who many times appears as a narrator in the Purāṇa, is himself called a *mahāmuni*.<sup>85</sup> The munis also appear to be advocating the cause of non-violence and they have set up certain rules for *yatis* and *bhikṣus* (mendicants) regarding abstinence from animal food.<sup>86</sup> *Vaikhānasa-munis* who are mentioned here appear to have some connection with Rudra (?).<sup>87</sup> The Vālakṣhilyas (i.e., probably munis) were born of Śiva.<sup>88</sup> Vasiṣṭha is many times called a muni.<sup>89</sup> Aurva is also called muni<sup>90</sup> and similarly Rciḱa,<sup>91</sup> Śaunaka,<sup>92</sup> Bṛhaspati, Uśanas, are also called munis.<sup>93</sup> Even Kṣatriyas such as Saṁyāti (brother of Yayāti)<sup>94</sup> and Devāpi, son of king Pratipa<sup>95</sup> had become munis.

69. Cf. 60. 35. 70. Cf. 92. 66. 71. Cf. 91. 114-8.

72. Cf. *ṛṣayo munibhis saha*—5. 4; also 60. 60; 60. 4°. 73. Cf. 56. 94-102.

74. Cf. 1. 28; 2. 45; 1. 48; 86. 35. 75. Cf. 10. 73-6.

76. Cf. *yukṣāḥ paiyanti cetasā*—14. 12. 77. Cf. 16. 2-4.

78. Cf. 23. 115; 23. 198; 23. 206. 79. Cf. 23. 159. 80. Cf. 23. 185.

81. Cf. 23. 181. 82. Cf. 27. 1. 83. Cf. 54. 4-5. 84. Cf. 54. 8-10.

85. Cf. 22. 1. 86. Cf. 18. 9-17. 87. Cf. 65. 56-61. 88. Cf. 55. 41-3.

89. Cf. 88. 94-6; 88. 112; 88. 138. 90. Cf. 88. 158. 91. Cf. 91. 81.

92. Cf. 93. 25. 93. Cf. 3. 5. 94. Cf. 93. 14. 95. Cf. 99. 236.



**Brahmins and the Ritual :** To officiate as priest in sacrifices was one of the three duties of a Brahmin as ordained by Brahmā.<sup>96</sup> Many instances of great ritual performances are cited in the Purāṇa. The *Vāyu Purāṇa* itself was narrated at a sacrificial session.<sup>97</sup> Indra and Soma performed *yajñas*.<sup>98</sup> It was at this sacrifice performed by Indra that the maharṣis, also called munis, had raised a protest against killing of animals in *yajña*. The story of the Dakṣa-*yajña* covers a whole chapter.<sup>99</sup>

With Akṛūra it appears to have been almost a habit to perform sacrifices so much so that Akṛūra-*yajñas* are well-known.<sup>100</sup> King Raśādu and his son Citraratha performed great sacrifices and distributed ample wealth as *dakṣiṇā*.<sup>101</sup> King Rukmakavaca had performed an *aśvamedha* and bestowed wealth on Brahmins.<sup>102</sup> There is also an allusion to the performance of hundred *aśvamedhas* by king Sagara which led to the incident of the descent of the river Gaṅgā on the earth.<sup>103</sup> Śiradhvaja Janaka had also performed an *aśvamedha* and while the *agnikṣetra* was ploughed in the course of this sacrifice, it is said that Sītā was discovered from the clods of earth.<sup>104</sup> King Janamejaya performed an *aśvamedha* in which Indrota Śaunaka officiated as priest.<sup>105</sup> It is said that no one can be compared with king Kārtavīrya Arjuna in his performance of *yajñas* etc.<sup>106</sup> King Dharmaratha had the privilege of sharing Soma with Śakra in a sacrifice performed on the Viṣṇupada mountain.<sup>107</sup> *Rājasūya* was performed by Hariścandra.<sup>108</sup> A story of how Devamitra Śākalya was vanquished by Yājñavalkya in a debate at Janaka's *aśvamedha* is also narrated in the Purāṇa.<sup>109</sup> Of the kings of the 'future' we find an instance of king Pravira who 'will be' performing many *vājaḥpeya yajñas* in his city of Kāñcanakā accompanied by a generous distribution of wealth by way of *dakṣiṇā*.<sup>110</sup>

King Vena held ideas against the performance of sacrifices and in his reign gods did not partake of Soma at all. The sages offered a successful fight against him and installed Pṛthu in his place.<sup>111</sup> King Purūravas also tried to fall in line with Vena in this regard and coveted the wealth of the sages but he too met with a similar fate.

But ideas opposed to the performance of rituals, connected with the killing of animals are expressed, as we have seen, by the great sages themselves. They disliked both *dāna* and *yajña* on this very point.<sup>112</sup> Attempts are made to elevate *dāna* at the cost of actual performance of the ritual. One who gives his all to the Brahmins

96. Cf. 8. 169-70. 97. Cf. 1 ff. 99. 257-60. 98. Cf. 57. 96 ff.; 90 22-4.  
 99. Cf. Chapt. 30. 100. Cf. 96. 81-2. 101. Cf. 95. 16-9. 102. Cf. 95. 26.  
 103. Cf. 88. 143ff. 104. Cf. 89. 16-8. 105. Cf. 93. 25. 106. Cf. 94. 20.  
 107. Cf. 99. 102; Ga omits this. 108. Cf. 88. 118. 109. Cf. 60. 35 ff.  
 110. Cf. 99. 371-2. 111. Cf. 62. 109. ff.  
 112. *tasmā na dānam yajñam vā prajānuanti maharṣayoḥ*. Cf. 57. 115

is said to be capable of achieving the merits of the performance of all sacrifices.<sup>113</sup> In attempts to evaluate the respective merits of *dāna*, *yajña*, *tapas*, *samnyāsa* and *jñāna* we find *yajña* standing far below in the grade<sup>114</sup> and we have also a discourse by Śiva to Brahmā that *yajña*, *dāna*, the Vedas, etc., are not sufficient for the comprehension of his real greatness.<sup>115</sup> The origin and the flourishing state of *yajña* particularly in the Tretā and Dvāpara ages are equally deserving of notice. It is said that the Kali is the age of *dāna*, i. e., of making gifts only.

Acceptance of gifts (*pratigraha*) is also one of the three primary duties of a Brahmin. In a passage on *dānalakṣaṇa* (characteristics of making gifts) we find a definition of *dāna* and its kinds. A gift, to be proper, must be made only of a property acquired by lawful means and to a person (i. e., a Brahmin) who is virtuous.<sup>116</sup> Such a gift can be of three kinds: the best, the intermediate and the worst. Gift of the first kind is made without any ulterior motive of a return. The second type of gift is what is made through pity (*kāruṇyāt*). The worst kind of gift is made in view of a selfish end.<sup>117</sup> It is emphasized that the Brahmins to whom gifts are made must be virtuous.<sup>118</sup> Contrary to this, however, we find an exhortation that while feeding Brahmins in Gayā one should not inquire about their birth, conduct and learning, etc.<sup>119</sup>

Subject-matter of Gifts: Feeding Brahmins seems to have been regarded as the most appropriate *dāna*.<sup>120</sup> It is stated that feeding Brahmins in Gayā makes gods and ancestors pleased.<sup>122</sup> Vipras should be offered food even if they come in thousands, for it is said that the blessed ones (*siddhāḥ*.. *yogeśvarāḥ*) wander on this earth in the guise of vipras and protect the people according to dharma and that is why Brahmin guests should be offered food and hospitality with due respect.<sup>123</sup> Bṛhaspati particularly points out to Śaṁyu that at the time of *śrāddha* the ancestors are in the form of wind and become identified with Brahmins and that is why they should be served with food, clothes, cows, horses and villages.<sup>121</sup> Cows are also regarded as good gifts. Of Gāndinī (daughter of Śvaphalka, king of Kāśī) it is said that her father daily gave a cow to a Brahmin for she had insisted on this procedure as a condition precedent to her birth.<sup>124</sup> A thousand cows, gold, villages, jewels and slaves were the objects of prize offered by king Janaka to the most learned Brahmin amongst those assembled at his *aśvamedha*.<sup>125</sup> In the chapter on *dānapāla*<sup>126</sup> we find food, clothes, house-furniture (especially cots, bedding and cooking utensils) and foodstuffs as good gifts in *śrāddha*. We do not know from the Purāṇa

113. Cf. 79. 12. 114. Cf. 91. 113-4 115. Cf. 23. 101.

116. Cf. 59. 49. 117. Cf. 59. 48-50. 118. Cf. 80. 28. 119. Cf. 82. 24-7.

120. Cf. *annodānāt param dānam neha kimcana vidyate*—Cf. 80. 55.

121. Cf. 82. 25-6. 122. Cf. 71. 64-75. 123. Cf. 75. 13-4.

124. Cf. 96. 104-8. 125. Cf. 60. 37. 126. Cf. Chapt. 80.

as to what objects were offered as gifts in the various sacrifices performed by kings. There is a story of how Citrabhānu (the Sun-god in disguise) demanded of the king Kārtavīrya Arjuna a gift of the whole earth and of how the king granted it.<sup>127</sup>

Glorificatory statements regarding making of gifts are found in the Purāṇa at many places. We have seen above how the blessed ones and the spirits of the ancestors were capable of being represented in the Brahmins. Gods, Manes and Fire receive what is offered to dvijas.<sup>128</sup> In the *śrāddha-phala* chapters we find the merits of making gifts in *śrāddha* compared with those obtainable by performance of various sacrifices.<sup>129</sup> If respects are duly paid in a *śrāddha* to a yogin-led by a thousand Brahmins it is certain that he will lead his host and his entourage (*bhoktyn*) in crossing (the sea of life ?) as a boat afloat on the sea.<sup>130</sup> The story of the gift of silver (*rajata-dāna*) is without an end and virtuous sons enable their ancestors to cross (the ocean of life ?) with the help of this kind of gift.<sup>131</sup> There is also a general statement that those who give, go to the world of gods and those who do not, go to hell.<sup>132</sup>

As in the case of rituals we find statements in the Purāṇa indicating a low estimation of the spiritual value of *dāna*.

Brahmins at Tīrthas : We find many *tīrthas* mentioned in the Purāṇa as being holy for the purpose of *śrāddha*. At one of such *tīrthas* we are told of the existence of a sort of merito-metre '*dharmādharma-pradarśinī tulā*' with which Brahmins are said to have measured the merits of a *tīrtha*.<sup>133</sup> At the holy place of Vāyupura 18000 Brahmins—one-third of its total population—are said to have resided under the leadership of Mātariśvan. These Brahmins belonged to eleven gotras. This *tīrtha*, it is asserted, is famous throughout the world.<sup>134</sup>

Brahmins and Recitations of Kathās, Gāthās, etc. : There is an allusion in the Purāṇa to recitation of a *gāthā* by Brahmins on the family of king Devāvr̥dha.<sup>135</sup> Their connection with the recitations of *Kathās* and *Purāṇa* are, however, mentioned many times. He who listens and makes others listen to the story of the origin of creation from Brahmins, especially from *yatis*, at places of pilgrimage and temples, enjoys a long life and is, in due course, glorified in heaven due to *purāṇānukīrtana* (i.e. recitation of a purāṇa ?).<sup>136</sup> One attains happiness by a regular attendance at a recitation of a purāṇa.<sup>137</sup> Women, Sūdras and Vaiśyas are recommended to listen to the story of Dakṣa-Śiva conflict from the Brahmins for securing a place in *Rudra-loka*.<sup>138</sup> Various merits are promised to the members of different varṇas if they listen to the

127. Cf. 94, 39-40; 95. 3. 128. Cf. 79. 14. 129. Cf. Chapters 79-80.

130. Cf. 76. 28. 131. Cf. 74. 1-2. 132. Cf. 81. 9. 133. Cf. 77. 73.

134. Cf. No. 1422, App. 135. Cf. 96. 13. 136. Cf. 4. 5-8.

137. Cf. 4. 92. 138. Cf. 30. 320-1.

story of how Śiva came to be called Nīlakaṇṭha (blue-necked).<sup>139</sup> Similarly, one who listens to and repeats the account of the birth of Maruts is said to enjoy a long life.<sup>140</sup> It is also meritorious and beneficial to listen to the account of the progeny of Kāśyapa in the assembly of learned Brahmins.<sup>141</sup> The Brahmin who repeats the account of Kṛṣṇa's birth is also expected to be happy if he makes others listen to the same.<sup>142</sup>

**Brahmins and Politics :** The *Purohita* was one of the seven jewels of a paramount sovereign (*cakravartin*). The other six were: the Queen, the Commander-in-Chief, the Charioteer, *Mantrin*, Horse and *Kalabha*. These jewels were the very breathing spirit of kingship.<sup>143</sup>

The influence of the *Purohita* in matters of state apparent from the following instances. In the absence of the king, who had retired to the forest, the sage Vasiṣṭha—who is here called *yājñopādhyāya*—looked after the kingdom of Ayodhyā and the royal seraglio. The enemies of Sagara repaired to Vasiṣṭha for protection and king Sagara allowed them their freedom on Vasiṣṭha's advice.<sup>144</sup>

The Brahmins as a class also appear in the *Purāṇa* as wielding some influence in political affairs. King Yayāti had decided to consecrate his youngest son Puru as the next ruler of the realm. This was, however, against ancient usage. The (representatives of the) people headed by Brahmins (*Brāhmaṇa-pramukhā varṇāḥ*) lodged a formal protest against this to the king and advised him to follow the dharma by installing any of the elder sons on the throne. To this the king replied rather calmly, "All my elder sons have behaved disrespectfully towards me, while only the youngest son Puru had proved himself to be respectful and obedient. Besides there is the boon of the sage Śukra that only an obedient son should succeed me. There is also the consideration that Puru is acceptable to you (*bhavato 'numato*) and being your favourite prince he shall certainly be benevolent to you."<sup>145</sup> Since the venerable sage Śukra had already ordained the matter through the boon, I am almost helpless to add any further explanation." The *Paura-jānapadas* were apparently satisfied and approved of the king's choice.<sup>146</sup>

**Brahmins *versus* Kṣatriyas :** King Trayyārūna of Ayodhyā expelled his son Satyavrata at the instigation of his priest Vasiṣṭha and feeling disgust at his son's behaviour retired to forest life. Satyavrata being thus in exile, Vasiṣṭha now looked after the affairs of state and also supervised over the royal seraglio. In the meanwhile famine stalked over the kingdom and it lasted for twelve years. During the period of this famine Satyavrata supported the family of Viśvāmitra who was

139. Cf. 54. 111-6. 140. Cf. 67. 135. 141. Cf. 69. 355.

142. Cf. 96. 191. This stanza is omitted in Gha. 143. Cf. 57. 70.

144. Cf. 88. 136-8. 145. Cf. *yaḥ priyaḥ priyākṛt tava*. 146. Cf. 93. 15. ff.

engaged in severe austerities. Though Vasiṣṭha was the *de facto* ruler of the kingdom still he felt insecure in his position and appears to have had an inclination to instal Satyavrata on the throne.<sup>147</sup> But it so happened that Satyavrata, partly through a spirit of revenge and partly because he could not get food elsewhere, killed the cow of Vasiṣṭha. The enraged sage condemned him to be called Triśaṅku (a man of three sins or stains). Viśvāmitra, after he had finished his penance, came to know of how Satyavrata had supported his family; and it appears that he helped Satyavrata in his restoration.<sup>148</sup> Triśaṅku is then stated to have been elevated to heaven by Viśvāmitra.<sup>149</sup>

The following factors in the narrative of Vena and Pṛthu should be noted :—

(1) The Prajāpati Aṅga was born in the family of Atri. His son was Vena born of Sunīthā, a daughter of Mṛtyu whose vices seem to have tainted the character of Vena.

(2) When Vena came to the throne he transgressed the injunctions of the Vedas and followed the path of adharma. In his reign sacrifices ceased to be performed and gods were without their drink of Soma in yajñas. He was even fanatically determined<sup>150</sup> to offer active resistance to the performance of rituals. He arrogantly asserted that he himself should be worshipped and offered oblations in sacrifices.

(3) The sages, with Marīci as their leader, approached him saying, "Vena, do not follow adharma; this is not the eternal law. It has been promised by you that you would protect the people".<sup>151</sup> But Vena replied in scorn, 'Who else is the creator of dharma? ...Who can equal me in power, penance, knowledge and truth? ... I am the sole master and disposer of the earth ...'

(4) The great sages could not now control their anger. They seized him and 'churned' his left arm.<sup>152</sup> They then 'churned' his right arm and Pṛthu was born to the joy of all beings. The rivers and seas brought him jewels. The lord Pitāmaha, with gods, Aṅgirasas, and the creatures of the world, consecrated Pṛthu as the first king (*ādirājā*) of the world. An explanation of the word *rājan* (king) is then given. The king is called as such through the affection (*anurāga*) of his people.

(5) Then comes the incident of the birth of Sūta and Māgadha in the yajña. The sages called upon them to sing of the glory of Pṛthu.<sup>153</sup>

147. Cf. *abhiṣekyāmyaham rājye* ....

148. But here the text is not clear. There is also no clue as to how the restoration was effected.

149. Ka, Ga, Gha and Ņa omit this. There is, again, no description of the conflict between Viśvāmitra and Vasiṣṭha. Cf. 88, 80-116. But it is only alluded to elsewhere (2, 11) without any reference to Satyavrata Triśaṅku.

150. Cf. *krūrā pratijñā*. 151. Cf. *pālayiṣye prajāśca iti tveyaṁ pūrvam pratīśritam*.

152. For further details cf. No. 576 in App. 153. Cf. *Pṛthos tadvārthan samādhatu*.

They, however, replied, "We are accustomed to sing of gods and sages according to their achievements. Of the deeds of this king (i.e. Prthu) we know nothing that will enable us to praise him in suitable terms nor have we any indication (*lakṣaṇa*) of the same." The sages, however, asked them to sing of such deeds of the king as he was destined to perform in future. The Sūta and Māgadha praised the king according to the wishes of the sages. The king was pleased and offered the Anūpa-deśa to Sūta and the Magadha-deśa to Māgadha. Thenceforward are kings praised by Sūtas and Māgadhas.

(6) This is then followed by the speech of sages in words such as "Let this king Vainya be our sustainer," followed by an acclamation of the people in words: "Sustain us, our lord."

(7) The king now proceeds to vanquish the earth, which in the form of a cow, pleads mercy. The king commands her to always sustain his people which<sup>154</sup> the earth agrees to do. Henceforward is the earth known as Prthu's daughter.

(8) Last comes the incident of the 'milching of the earth' (*pr̥thvī-dohana*) in which the earth is symbolized as the cow. The king, gods, sages, yakṣas, etc. partake in this 'milching' of the earth.<sup>155</sup>

The facts about the Janamejaya and Gārgya episode are as follows:—

(a) He was the son of Parīkṣit and is also called Kaurava (i.e. a descendant of Kuru).

(b) He hurt the son of Gārgya.<sup>156</sup> Gārgya seems to have cursed Janamejaya and as a result of this curse the famous chariot which Janamejaya had inherited from his ancestor Yayāti was destroyed. The unfortunate king was also forsaken by the Paura-jānapadas and thus he was never at rest.<sup>157</sup>

(c) The sage Indrota Śaunaka purified him by officiating as a priest in a horse-sacrifice performed by him.<sup>158</sup>

We find another account of the same king elsewhere:—

(i) He supported the Vājasaneyika Brahmins.

(ii) According to some versions of the Purāṇa,<sup>159</sup> Vaiśampāyana is said to have cursed him, but the reason for this is not stated.

(iii) He performed aśvamedha twice.

(iv) He is here called the lord (? *kharva*) of the Aśvakamukhyās, the Aṅgas and of Madhyadeśa.

(v) It is further stated that he met his ruin through his quarrels with the Brahmins who installed his son Śatānīka on the throne.<sup>160</sup>

154. Cf. *saṃjīvaya prajā nityam*.

155. Cf. 62, 103 ff.

156. The name of this son might be Lohagandha, but the text here is very confusing.

157. Cf. *Paṇḍarājānapadaśi tyakto no lebhe tārma karhicit*.

158. Cf. 93, 21-7. 159. As in Kṛs, Gha and Ns. 160. 99, 250-6.

While king Purūravas was ruling, the sages of the Naimiṣa forest had started a sacrificial session which was to last for twelve years. It is said that even the jewels of the eighteen seas did not satisfy his greed. He came to know of the wealth of the sages when he happened to come to the place of the sacrifice in the course of his hunting expedition. He tried to force it away but the sages opposed him and killed him with the blades of Kuśa grass. They then installed his son on the throne.<sup>161</sup>

Once upon a time the Sun-god in the guise of a Brahmin named Citrabhānu demanded from the king Kārtavīrya Arjuna the whole earth for alms. To effect this gift the king shot arrows which consumed with fire cities, villages etc., and also the hermitage of the sage Vasiṣṭha Āpava, probably son of Varuṇa. The sage was enraged and cursed the king that the Brahmin Rāma would annihilate him.<sup>162</sup>

Brahmins and Education: Teaching (*adhyāpana*)<sup>163</sup> was one of the three primary functions of a Brahmin as had been ordained by Brahṁā.<sup>164</sup> The Sūta says that the story of the birth of Pṛthu is not to be narrated to a person, i. e., a Brahmin, without a disciple.<sup>165</sup> A Brahmin without the knowledge of the Vedas was not to be invited for *śrāddha*.<sup>166</sup>

There is an instance in the Purāṇa of how the Vedic lore was transmitted from father to son. Jaimini was entrusted with the compilation of the Sāmaveda Saṁhitā by his preceptor Vyāsa. He taught it to his son Sumantu, who in return transmitted the same to his son Sutvāna. Sutvāna further transmitted it to his son Sukarman.<sup>167</sup>

Some glimpses of the intellectual activities of the Brahmins are offered from the following story of Janaka's *aśvamedha*: Thousands of sages had assembled for this sacrifice. The king desired to know as to who was the most learned amongst them and announced a highly coveted prize for the most successful contestant in the debate. Yājñavalkya came forward to claim the prize but had an opponent in Devamitra Śākalya. The other sages had asked him many questions but he answered them easily. After some wordy warfare Śākalya asked Yājñavalkya some questions on *kāma* and the latter answered them quite satisfactorily. Yājñavalkya in turn now asked his rival only one question on *kāma* (*kāmikaṁ praśnam*) and warned him that death was waiting for him if he did not answer it. Śākalya was unable to answer and thus he courted death.<sup>168</sup>

There is a quaint reference to Brahmins preaching principles of atheism in the holy place of Gokarṇa.<sup>169</sup>

161. Cf. 2. 13-24; 1. 190-3.

162. Some versions do not read the name Āpava; Ka omits it altogether. Cf. 94. 39, ff; 95. 1-13. It should be noted that the patronymic Jāmadagnya is not mentioned in connection with Rāma.

163. Kha, Ga, Gha and Na read *adhyayana*. 164. Cf. 8. 169. 165. Cf. 62. 104.

166. Cf. 82. 64. 167. Cf. 61. 27. Kha and Gha omit this. 168. Cf. 60. 35-60.

169. Cf. 77. 21 *Gokarṇe varṇitam viprair nāstikāntām mārjanam*.

## III. THE KṢĀTRIYAS

The term Kṣattrā is very often used in the Purāṇa to denote the whole order of the Kṣatriyas. King Hariścandra is referred to as the conqueror of the whole Kṣattrā.<sup>170</sup> Rāma Jāmadagnya is styled as the 'annihilator of the whole Kṣattrā'.<sup>171</sup> Mahāpadma conquered the whole Kṣattrā.<sup>172</sup> Manu, a descendant of Ikṣvāku, is called the promoter of the Kṣattrā (*Kṣattrā-pravartaka*),<sup>173</sup> and the same is said of Devāpi and Suvarcas elsewhere.<sup>174</sup> Besides, we have expressions such as *Mānava Kṣattrā*, *Aila Kṣattrā*,<sup>175</sup> *Bāleya Kṣattrā*,<sup>176</sup> *Rājeya Kṣattrā*,<sup>177</sup> *Dhārṣṭaka Kṣattrā*,<sup>178</sup> etc., meaning the descendants of Manu, Ilā, Bali, Rājī, Dhṛṣṭa, etc., respectively. The compound word *Brahma-Kṣattrā* is also mentioned sometimes.<sup>179</sup> The Kṣattrā of Ikṣvāku is said to have come to a close with Sumitra and that of Aila with Kṣemaka.<sup>180</sup>

The word Kṣatriya meant a member of the order of Kṣattrā. Vasudeva reminds Kāṁsa that a Kṣatriya should not kill a woman.<sup>181</sup> The word Kṣatriya is used in this sense in the Purāṇa many times. But in the account of the origin of the varṇas we find the word 'Kṣatriya' as signifying the class or order of Kṣatriyas and the use of the word in this sense is equally observable in the Purāṇa as in the case of Kṣattrā.<sup>182</sup>

There is, however, an interesting instance of Kārtavīrya Arjuna who is called *Viśāṁ patih*, i. e., "lord of viś or people",<sup>183</sup> and the term *rājanya* is very rarely used in the Purāṇa.<sup>184</sup> Even Śakas, Yavanas, Kāmbojas, Palhavas, Pāradas, Kalisparsās, Māhiṣikas, Darvas, Colas and Khasas are mentioned as Kṣatriya-gaṇas.<sup>185</sup>

Functions of the Kṣatriya Order: To protect others was the primary duty of Kṣatriyas.<sup>186</sup> But to be more explicit Brahṁā had ordained the following as their chief functions: (i) *bala* (soldiery?), (ii) *daṇḍa* (government?) and (iii) war.<sup>187</sup>

After Brahṁā had set up the vārtās he proceeded to regulate the limits of the functions of the varṇas. To protect others was the function he assigned to Kṣatriyas and then functions of other varṇas are mentioned. When this did not work well he reiterated the same though more explicitly. Here too the functions of the Kṣatriya order are mentioned *first*.<sup>188</sup>

170. Cf. 88. 120. 171. Cf. 98. 91. Omitted in Cha. Cf. also. 99. 449.

172. Cf. 99. 328. Kha has Ksetra instead. 173. Cf. 88. 210. 174. Cf. 99. 438-40. Cf. also 28. 27-9. 175. Cf. 99. 293. 176. Cf. 99. 28. 177. Cf. 92. 75.

178. Cf. 88. 4. 179. Cf. 99. 116; 99. 218; 99. 246. etc. 180. Cf. 99. 431-3.

181. Cf. 96. 224. 182. Cf. 99. 433; 99. 442; 99. 449; 91. 69; 91. 75; 91. 91 etc. etc. 183. Cf. 94. 39.

184. Cf. 28. 37, where Ketumat is called *rājanya* but Gha and Na read *rājan*.

185. Cf. 88. 142-3. 89. 126. ff. 186. Cf. 8. 162. 187. Cf. 8. 169.

188. Cf. 8. 162-70.



## INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITIES OF THE KṢĀTRIYAS

(i) The following kings are mentioned as being Brahmvādins in the Purāṇa :

- (a) King Purūravas was Brahmvādin and Satyavādin.<sup>189</sup>
- (b) Malina was the son of king Trasu and is called Brahmvādin. He had four sons of whom Duṣmanta or Duṣyanta was one.<sup>190</sup> This Duṣyanta was the father of Bharata born of Śakuntalā.<sup>191</sup>
- (c) King Mitrajyoti's<sup>192</sup> sons gave up the life of a householder and embraced the life of renunciation and having followed the life of yatis they finally achieved the *brahmabhūya* (i.e., unity with Brahman).<sup>193</sup>

(ii) Kings who retired to forest life and practised penance and yoga :

- (a) Bṛhadaśva installed his son Kuvalāśva on the throne and entered forest-life. Once it so happened that the sage Uttan̄ka was disturbed by a demon Dhundhu (who also was practising penance) in the course of his austerities. Uttan̄ka approached Bṛhadaśva (who had now embraced forest-life) for redress of his grievances. Bṛhadaśva replied, "I had already given up my arms<sup>194</sup> but my son Kuvalāśva will see to the matter". He is also called a rājarṣi.<sup>195</sup>
- (b) Trayyārūṇa and (c) Viṣvāmitra are already mentioned.
- (d) Vasudeva had two sons : Puṇḍra and Kapila. Of these, Puṇḍra became king and Kapila retired to forest-life.<sup>196</sup>
- (e) Brahmā once granted some boons to king Bali according to which he was expected to be a great *yogin* and a master of the principles of dharma and artha.<sup>197</sup>
- (f) Manu was the son of Śighra of the Ikṣvāku line.<sup>198</sup> In the 19th *prayuga* (?) he is said to have resorted to yoga.<sup>199</sup>
- (g) King Nahuṣa had five sons of whom Saṁyāti was one. He became a muni and having desired for emancipation became finally united with Brahman.<sup>200</sup>
- (h) After installing his youngest son Puru on the throne Yayāti entered forest-life and practised penance on the Bhrgutuṅga. He is styled as rājarṣi.<sup>201</sup>

189. Cf. 91. 4 ; 91. 2. 190. Cf. Kha and Gha have Duṣkanta.

191. Cf. 99. 132-5. 192. Cf. according to Ga *Mitrajyoti*. 193. Cf. 93. 5-6.

194. Cf. *vājā samnyastatastro 'haṁ*. 195. Cf. 88. 32-45.

196. Cf. 96. 183. 197. Cf. 99. 30-2.

198. Cf. Kha and Gha call him Meru at one place. 199. Cf. 88. 210.

200. Cf. *Samyātir mokṣam āstīhāya brahmabhūto 'bhavan munīḥ* ; 93. 14.

201. Cf. 93. 102.

- (i) King Pratīpa had three sons, viz., Devāpi, Samtanu and Vāhlikā. Devāpi entered forest-life as he was in earnest about dharma (*dharma-parīpsayā*). He became a muni, and the *upādhyāya* of Devas.<sup>202</sup>

There is another reference to Paurava King Devāpi who is said to have resorted to *yoga*. He is here called the promoter of Kṣattrā (*Kṣattrā-prāvartaka*).<sup>203</sup>

(iii) The Rājarṣi Kings : Two lists of Rājarṣi kings occur in the Purāṇa. The first list, which does not profess to be exhaustive, gives the following names of Rājarṣi kings :—Priyavrata, Uttānapāda, Dhruva, Medhātithi, Sumedhas, Virajas, Śaṅkha-pāda, Prācīnabarhis, Parjanya and Havirdhāna, etc. They are said to have practised penance.<sup>204</sup> The second list, which too does not purport to be exhaustive, mentions the following royal sages :—Viśvāmitra, Māṁdhātā, Saṁkr̥ti, Kapi, Purukutsa, Satya, R̥thu (?), Ār̥ṣiṣena, Ajamīdha, Kakṣiṇa, Sṛṇjaya, Rathītara, Rundha and Viṣṇuvṛddha, etc. They are said to have accomplished sage-hood through austerities. They are also styled as *Kṣātropetā dvijātayah*.<sup>205</sup> The names of the royal sages scattered about in the Purāṇa are already mentioned.

Some of these kings, of whom we have more information from the Purāṇa, have been noted below :—

(1) Ambarīṣa : The Vāyu Purāṇa mentions two Ambarīṣas of whom one was a son of Nābhāga<sup>206</sup> and the other that of Māṁdhātā.<sup>207</sup> In these references to the king we do not find the epithets *rājarṣi* used, though the name occurs in one of the above lists.

(2) Ajamīdha : There are two Ajamīdhas mentioned in the Purāṇa. One of them was a son of Somaka. He was probably the grandfather of Drupada. His wife, by name Dhūmini, is said to have practised severe austerities for a hundred years! Here Ajamīdha is not called *rājarṣi*.<sup>208</sup> The other Ajamīdha was a son of Hastin, who founded the city of Hastināpura. This Ajamīdha had three wives. One of them, Keśinī, gave birth to Kan̥tha whose descendants were the Kāṇṭhāyana dvijas. His other wife, Nilinī, gave birth to Nīla. Mudgala was a great-great-grandson of this Nīla. The descendants of Mudgala were known as the Maudgalya Brahmins who were Kṣatriya Brahmins.<sup>209</sup> This Ajamīdha also is not mentioned as a *rājarṣi*. But his name occurs in the list of *rājarṣi* sages.

(3) Divodāsa : Divodāsa is mentioned as a son of Badhyāsya.<sup>210</sup> He is mentioned at another place as the king of Vārāṇasī. He was the

202. Cf. 99. 234-6. 203. Cf. 99. 437-40. 204. Cf. 57. 121-3.

205. Cf. 91. 114-18. 206. Cf. 98. 6. 207. Cf. 88. 71-2. 208. Cf. 99. 209-12.

209. Cf. 99. 166-200. But Ns omits this piece of information about the Maudgalyas.

210. Cf. 99. 200-1.

son of Ketumat. A story is narrated of the destruction of the city of Vārāṇasī and of the founding of another city by Divodāsa on the river Gomati.<sup>211</sup> Here Divodāsa is mentioned as rājarṣi.

(4) Kakṣivat: He is said to have been born of Dirghatamas through a Śūdra maid-servant of king Bāli. He is called a Brahmvādin. He practised severe austerities and through these achieved brahminhood.<sup>212</sup> But nowhere in this account is Kakṣivat called a rājarṣi though his name occurs in the above lists.

(5) Māṁdhātā: He was the son of Yuvanāśva. He is said to have been bearing a *corpus* (*tanuḥ*) of Viṣṇu. He had three sons, viz., Purukutsa, Ambariṣa and Mucukunda. The grandson of Ambariṣa was Harita after whom the Hārita Brahmins—who were Kṣatriya Brahmins—were known.<sup>213</sup> Viṣṇuvṛddha was a descendant of Purukutsa. The Viṣṇuvṛddha Brahmins (?)—who too were Kṣatriya Brahmins—were known after this Viṣṇuvṛddha. The term rājarṣi, however, does not occur in the narration. Another reference makes Māṁdhātā an incarnation of Viṣṇu.<sup>214</sup>

(6) Pṛthu Vainya and (7) Purukutsa are already mentioned.

(8) Rathītara: Rathītara was a great-grandson of Ambariṣa, son of Nābhāga. After him the Rathītaras, who were Kṣatriya Brahmins, came to be so called.<sup>215</sup> The epithet rājarṣi does not occur in connection with Rathītara.

(9) Saṁkṛti, (10) Janaka, (11) Bṛhadaśva and (12) Yayāti are mentioned above.

(13) Janamejaya: Rājarṣi Janamejaya was the son of Puramjaya.<sup>216</sup>

(14) Kapi: The ancestor of Kāpeya Brahmins.

(15) Viśvāmītra: In these accounts he is not called a rājarṣi, though his name occurs first in the list of rājarṣis.

(iv) Kṣatriyas and Vedic Learning: Sagara had his education in the hermitage of the sage Aurva who taught him the Vedas and the *śāstras*.<sup>217</sup> King Kuśa had four sons who were well-versed in the Vedas.<sup>218</sup> Vasiṣṭha, a descendant of Ikṣvāku, was a disciple of a grandson of Jaimini. He was well-versed in 105 *saṁhitās*. Yājñavalkya learnt *yoga* from him (?).<sup>219</sup> King Kṛta, a descendant of Puru, was a disciple of Hiranyanābhi Kauthuma. He compiled the twenty-four Sāmāns which are known as the *prācya sāmāns* of Kṛta.<sup>220</sup> The same fact is referred to in the account of the compilation of the Sāma-veda.<sup>221</sup>

211. Cf. No. 1403 in App.; 92. 20 ff. 212. Cf. 99. 67-94. 213. Cf. 88. 65-75.

214. Cf. 98. 90. Gha omits this. 215. Cf. 88. 6-7.

216. Cf. 99. 15. Ga omits this. 217. *Adhyāpṛya veda-śāstrāṇi*: 88. 134.

218. *Vedavarcasāḥ* 91. 62. Gha reads differently. 219. Cf. 88. 206-8.

220. *Smṛtāḥ te prācyānāmāṇāḥ Kārtā Sāmānāṁ tu Sāmāgāḥ* 99. 189-91. "

221. Cf. 61. 44.

The following names of persons, who are known as kings elsewhere in the Purāṇa, occur in the list of *mantravādin* sages : Vitahavya, Prthu Vainya and Divodāsa.<sup>222</sup>

The names of Purukutsa, Mārṇdhātā, Ambariṣa, Yuvanāśva Paurukutsa, Trasadasyu, Ajamīdha, Ṛṣabha, Bali and Prṣadaśva occur in the list of *mantrakṛt* sages.<sup>223</sup> Most of the kings who bore these names have already been noted above.

A *gāthā* which purports to have been sung by the great king Yayāti is actually handed down to us by the Purāṇa.<sup>224</sup>

#### KṢĀTRIYA-BRAHMIN RELATIONS

(A) Kṣatriya Brahmins : The expression 'Kṣātropetā dvijātayaḥ' occurs many times in the genealogical lists of the Purāṇa in connection with kings after whom these twice-born (dvijātayaḥ) were named.

Of such Brahmins the following are mentioned in the Purāṇa :

- (a) Kaṇṭhāyana-dvijas. They belonged to the *pakṣa* of Aṅgirasas.
- (b) Maudgalyas, (c) Hāritas and (d) Viṣṇuvṛddhas. They are included in the list of the fifteen pakṣas of the Aṅgirasas.<sup>225</sup>
- (e) Rathītaras : They were known as Aṅgirasas and are also included in the list of the fifteen pakṣas of Aṅgirasas.<sup>226</sup>
- (f) Gāgras, (g) Kapis and (h) Sāmkṛitis : Vitatha Bharadvāja had a son Bhuvamanyu who had four sons, viz., Brhatkṣattrā, Mahāvīrya, Nara and Gāgra.<sup>227</sup> The descendants of Gāgra were known after him as the Gāgra Kṣatriya Brahmins. Mahāvīrya had a great-grandson named Kapi whose descendants also were known as Kṣatriya Brahmins. Nara's son was Sāmkṛti after whom the Sāmkṛti Kṣatriya Brahmins were so called. All of these Kṣatriya Brahmins belonged to the pakṣas of Aṅgirasas.<sup>228</sup> The Gārgyakas and Sāmkṛtikas are mentioned elsewhere as pakṣas of the Aṅgirasas.<sup>229</sup>
- (i) Śāradvatas : Śātānanda, a great sage, had a son named Kṛpa through an apsaras. Kṛpa seems to have been brought up by the king Śaṁtanu. Śātānanda was a descendant of Mudgala referred to in connection with king Ajamīdha. The descendants of Kṛpa, son of Śātānanda, were probably known as Śāradvatas. It appears that they were called also Ṛtathyaś and Gautamas. They embraced the stock of the Bhārgavas.<sup>230</sup>
- (j) Maitreyas : Mitrāyu was a son of King Divodāsa. His descendants were the Maitreyas who were also Kṣatriya Brahmins following the stock of the Bhārgavas.<sup>231</sup>

222. Cf. 59. 96-7. 223. Cf. 59. 99. 224. Cf. 93. 94-101. 225. Cf. 65. 107.  
 226. 65. 106. 227. Na Gārga. 228. Cf. 99. 157-64. 229. Cf. 65. 106.  
 230. 99. 204-8. 231. 99. 206-8.

- (k) Āṛṣiṣeṇas and Śaunakas. (l) King Sutaśotra had three sons, viz., Kāśa, Śala and Gr̥tsamada. Śala had a son Āṛṣiṣeṇa after whom the Āṛṣiṣeṇas—who were Kṣatriya Brahmins—were so called. Gr̥tsamada had a son Śunaka after whom the Śaunakas—who too were Kṣatriya Brahmins—were so called.<sup>232</sup>
- (m) Kauśikas : They were known after Viśvāmitra, son of king Gādhi. Many *gotras* of the Kauśikas are mentioned in the Purāṇa. It is stated that Viśvāmitra was also known by the name of Viśvaratha.<sup>233</sup>
- (B) Kṣatriya-Brahmin Marriages : In the following references we find the Kṣatriyas related to Brahmins through matrimonial ties :
- (a) Devayānī, wife of king Yayāti, was a daughter of the sage Śukra.<sup>234</sup>
- (b) The wife of Jamadagni was Renukā, also called Kāmali. She was a daughter of the king Suveṇu, a descendant of Ikṣvaku.<sup>235</sup>
- (c) The Bhārgava R̥cika had a wife named Satyavatī who was the daughter of king Gādhi.<sup>236</sup>
- (d) Ahalyā was a daughter of the king Badhyasva, whose son was Divodāsa. This Ahalyā was the wife of the sage Śatānanda whose descendants were known as the Śāradvatas.<sup>237</sup>
- (e) Kāmyā was a daughter of the Prajāpati Kardama. She was given in marriage to king Priyavrata. She gave birth to sons who promoted the order of Kṣattrā.<sup>238</sup>
- (f) Vasiṣṭha had a daughter Puṇḍarikā who was the queen of Pāṇḍu.<sup>239</sup>

The last two instances occur in genealogical narrations of the sages.

(C) Brahmins appointed to raise issues for Kṣatriyas : This question has been treated at length in the following chapter.

(D) Kṣatriya adopting a Brahmin as Son : Bharadvāja was born of an illicit connection of Bṛhaspati with Mamatā, wife of Aśija,<sup>240</sup> Bṛhaspati's brother. The new-born child was exposed to the care of nature by the parents. The Maruts are said to have brought up the child.<sup>241</sup> When king Bharata performed the Marut-Soma sacrifice for a son, the Maruta were pleased and gave Bharadvāja to the king (probably by way of adoption?). This Bharadvāja was known as Vitatha Bharadvāja. He was known as having two fathers and was called *dvimukhyāyana*.<sup>242</sup> Being first a Brahmin he later became a Kṣatriya.<sup>243</sup> He continued the royal line of Bharata.<sup>244</sup>

232. Cf. 92. 3-6. 233. Cf. 91. 93 ff. 234. Cf. 93. 77. 235. Cf. 91. 89-90.

236. Cf. 91. 65 ff. 237. Cf. 99. 201-6. 238. Cf. 28. 27-9.

239. Cf. 28. 34-5. 240. Kha. *Uśija*. 241. This is omitted in Ns.

242. Cf. *dvimukhyāyanandā sa smṛto dvī-pitara (pita)ḥ tu vai*.

243. Cf. *Brahmaṇyāt Kṣatriyo 'bhavat*. 244. Cf. 99. 142-58.

## IV. THE VAIŚYAS

The Purāṇa does not give much information on the Vaiśyas. In the cosmic account of the origin of the varṇas they are represented as being born of Brahmā's belly. They are said to be without any means of protection (*abalāḥ*) following agricultural pursuits.<sup>245</sup> The important functions assigned to them by the Creator are : cattle-breeding (*pāśu-pālya*), trade (*vāṇijya*) and agriculture (*kṛṣi*).<sup>246</sup> In the Tretā age the Vaiśyas (or Viś) followed the Kṣatriyas<sup>247</sup> which was expected of them in an ideal state of varṇāśrama.

Their relation with the king was that they expected protection from the latter. King Yayāti served them with protection.<sup>248</sup> King Pṛthu, who was revered by them, is called their sustainer (*vyttidātā*).<sup>249</sup> King Kārtavīrya Arjuna is called the lord of the Vaiśyas (i.e. the people?) (cf. *viśāṃ patiḥ*) and the same is the description of his son Jayadhvaja in the Avantis (?).<sup>250</sup> The expression *viśāṃ patiḥ* is also used elsewhere but there it means a vaiśya leader and not a king.<sup>251</sup>

A benedictory stanza shows that their attention was mainly focussed on wealth and profit.<sup>252</sup> (Dealers in liquor, milk, flesh, lac, perfumes, etc., are condemned to hell<sup>253</sup> and the same lot is assigned to a dealer in horses.<sup>254</sup>) Uncomplimentary references about them occur in the description of the conditions at the end of the Kali age. All will be like traders (*vāṇijakāḥ*) in this age.<sup>255</sup> But it is also asserted that during this period they will be extinct along with the Kṣatriyas.<sup>256</sup> The Dvāpara age is called as their age (*vaiśya-yuga*).<sup>257</sup> They are recommended with Śūdras and women to attend a recitation of the story of Dakṣa-Śiva conflict for a place in Rudraloka.<sup>258</sup> They are also mentioned as residing in the city of Campāvati with the Brahmins and Kṣatriyas engaged in the worship of Viṣṇu.<sup>259</sup>

## V. THE ŚŪDRAS

In the cosmic account of the origin of the four orders of society the Śūdras are represented as having arisen out of the two feet of the Creator. In the first account of their origin elsewhere, they are described as a powerless, miserable and timid people always engaged in servile occupations.<sup>260</sup> But when the Creator revised the whole scheme of social functions he assigned them craftsmanship and manual

245. *hānāsā vṛttisādhakāḥ*.

248. Cf. 93. 66.

251. Cf. 57. 50.

253. Cf. 101. 162.

256. Cf. 58. 38.

259. Cf. 99. 106-7 but this information is not found in Gha and Nā.

260. Cf. *śocantaś ca dravantaś ca paricaryāsu ye ratāḥ nistajataśchapīryāś ca śūdrāḥ* sām abhavaḥ sa saḥ.

246. Cf. 8. 164-70.

249. Cf. 63. 10.

252. Cf. 100. 246; only in kh cf. also 54. 111.

254. Cf. 101. 154.

257. Cf. 78. 36.

247. Cf. 57. 51-2.

250. Cf. 94. 39; 94. 50.

255. Cf. 58. 51.

258. Cf. 30. 320-1.

labour as their chief functions.<sup>261</sup> Elsewhere they are treated as dependents of the first three classes.<sup>262</sup>

In the story of Pṛthu in which the first three varṇas are recommended to pay homage to the king Pṛthu they are not referred to at all;<sup>263</sup> but in connection with the king Yayāti they are mentioned as being distinct from the Dasyus. The king entertained the Śūdras with favour and the Dasyus with proper supervision.<sup>264</sup> These two references are probably indicative of their place in politics. But we have the instance of Mahāpadma in the Purāṇa to show how a Śūdra can raise himself in political sphere. King Mahānandin had a son Mahāpadma through a Śūdra (maid-servant or wife?). This Mahāpadma destroyed the power of all the Kṣatriyas and was the sole ruler of the world. After him all the kings were Śūdras.<sup>265</sup>

The sage Dīrghatamas had two sons, viz., Kakṣivat and Cakṣus through a Śūdra maid servant of king Bali. Kakṣivat practised severe austerities and achieved the status of a Brahmin (*brāhmaṇyam prāptavān*). The king Bali at first claimed both the sons of this maid-servant as his sons but Dīrghatamas set the claim aside.<sup>266</sup> Pṛsadhra, son of Vaivasvata Manu, ate the flesh of his preceptor's cow. The sage Cyavana cursed him to become a Śūdra.<sup>267</sup> These two accounts are suggestive of the social position of the Śūdras. In the description of the city of Vāyupura they number twice as much as the Brahmins in the composition of the city's population.<sup>268</sup> They are also mentioned with Vaiśyas and women who were recommended to listen to the story of Dakṣa-Śiva conflict from the Brahmins for a place in the Rudraloka.<sup>269</sup> In the Tretā age they were supposed to have behaved in the footsteps of the Vaiśyas.<sup>270</sup>

In the picturesque description of the conditions prevailing at the end of the Kali age many uncomplimentary remarks are passed about them. The Kali age is the age of Śūdras.<sup>271</sup>

A reference to Ājīvas, who were a class of artisans, is found in the Purāṇa. They are said to have their origin in the contamination of the varṇas and Piśācas were regarded as their deities. Are they to be included in the order of the Śūdras?<sup>272</sup> There is again a story of the destruction of the city of Vārāṇasī in which a barber named Maṅkana is shown to be installing an image of Gaṇeśa Kṣemaka, an attendant of Śiva, at the city-gates. This deity Gaṇeśvara became a favourite object of worship especially for women who desired male progeny.<sup>273</sup>

Śūdra also occurs as a name of a country in northern Bhāratavarṇa.

261. Cf. 8. 165-71. 262. Cf. 7. 27. 263. Cf. 63. 6-10. 264. Cf. 93. 66.

265. Cf. 99. 326-9. 266. Cf. 99. 67-74. 267. Cf. 86. 1-2.

268. Cf. No. 1422 in App. 269. Cf. 30. 320-1. 270. Cf. 57. 51-3.

271. Cf. 78. 36. 272. Cf. No. 15 in App. 273. Cf. No. 1403 in App.

## VI. THE DASYUS OR DĀSAS

Words such as Dasyus or Dāsas occur sometimes in the Purāṇa. We have seen above in connection with king Yayāti how the Dasyus were regarded as distinct from the Śūdras. That king Yayāti 'entertained' (*anurañjan*) them with due control and supervision indicates that probably they were a people of wild habits. When Satyavrata killed the cow of Vasistha the latter took it that the exiled prince had followed the *dharma* of the Dasyus.<sup>274</sup> This leads us to infer that the Dasyus were a people who were accustomed to steal cows. There is another important fact which should be noted in this connection. This Satyavrata was condemned by his father to follow the ways of a *Śvapāka*, i. e. the life of a tribe who ate the flesh of dogs (?)<sup>275</sup> and it is said that Satyavrata did follow the ways of these people as was commanded by his father.<sup>276</sup> Budha, father of Purūrasas, is thrice mentioned as "the best amongst the annihilators of the Dasyus".<sup>277</sup>

The Dasyus were also regarded as distinct from the various *jātis* of Mlecchas. In the Kuśādvīpa there were no Dasyus nor the various *Jātis* of Mlecchas.<sup>278</sup>

Satyavati, the daughter of a fisherman, is called *Dāseyī*. The sage Parāśara had a son born of her. This son was none else than the famous vipraṁśi Vyāsa who is said to have arranged the four Vedas in the 28th Dvāpara age. Satyavati later became the wife of King Śamtanu and had two sons.<sup>279</sup> She is also referred to in the genealogical lists as *dāseyī*.<sup>280</sup>

Slavery and Slave-trade: A reference to the twelve-year famine has been made above in connection with the story of Satyavrata Triśaṅku. At this time, Viśvāmitra was practising severe penance. Being severely affected by the famine, the wife of Viśvāmitra tied a string (?) to the neck of her middle-most son and sold him for a price of hundred cows so as to enable her to support the rest of her children.<sup>281</sup> Satyavrata, the exiled prince, appears to have been present at the transaction and he effected the emancipation of the child and himself undertook to look after the family of Viśvāmitra. He did this partly with a view to please Viśvāmitra and partly through pity.<sup>282</sup>

The prize which king Janaka announced to the learned winner in his *Atvamedha* included, among other things, such as cows, gold, etc., slaves also.<sup>283</sup>

274. Cf. *Dasyudharmam gato dṛṣṭvā* : 88. 104-5. 275. Cf. 88. 82.

276. Cf. 88. 84. 277. Cf. *Dasyuhantama* : 89 37-42.

278. Cf. 49. 55. 279. Cf. 73. 16-20. 280 Cf. 99. 241.

281. Cf. *satya putriṁ gale baddhvā madhyamaṁ putram aurasaṁ tiṣṭānāṁ bhara-*  
*ṇādhya pyakṛtyāḥ gatena vai.* 282. Cf. 18.85-9.

283. According to readings in Ka and Gha they were male slaves while Kha, Ga and Na mention female slaves. Cf. 60, 37.



## CHAPTER II

### WOMAN AND MARRIAGE

#### I. WOMAN

**Estimation of Women :** It is prophesied that at the end of the Kali age—which is pictured as a repository of all vices—women will outnumber men.<sup>1</sup> It should be noted in this connection that this age is described as being essentially an age of Śūdras influence. Women are classed with Vaiśyas and Śūdras and are advised to listen to the story of Dakṣa-Siva conflict for a place in Rudra-loka.<sup>2</sup>

When king Yayāti requested his son Druhya to accept his old age the latter replied, "Not an elephant, not a horse, not a chariot nor a woman does an old man enjoy."<sup>3</sup> Yayāti himself later expressed a similar sentiment mentioning women with food, gold and cattle to show as if they were articles of enjoyment.<sup>4</sup> The queen of a cakravartin is considered as being one of his seven select jewels (*atibaya-ratnāṇi*), the other six being chariot, discus, jewel (maṇi), treasury, horses and elephant.<sup>5</sup> Vasudeva (father of Kṛṣṇa) had thirteen wives of whom two are mentioned as *paricārikās*.<sup>6</sup> (A reciter of the prayer to Śiva, it is expected, goes to heaven, after his death, being surrounded by a thousand damsels,<sup>7</sup> and the meritorious return for a generous donor in śrāddha is that many beautiful maid-servants (*nāryak*) will be at his command.<sup>8</sup>)

King Jyāmagha had captured a girl in a victorious war and when he went home he told his wife that he had brought her a daughter-in-law. But Jyāmagha had no son and his wife reminded him of that. The king however retorted that a son that would be born would marry her.<sup>9</sup>

**Her Status as Wife :** Statements in praise of sexual purity occur in the Purāṇa. Men in the Uttara-Kuru land did not associate themselves with the wives of others.<sup>10</sup> One of the evil features of the future Kali-age is that men will be addicted to others' wives.<sup>11</sup> But cases of 'illicit' sexual intercourse occur in the Purāṇa.

It is said that the wives of Nārāyaṇa, Indra, Viṣṇu (?), Sūrya, and Vasiṣṭha never forsake them. They follow their husbands in all their rebirths in the different *Kalpas*.<sup>12</sup> By listening to the story of how

1. Cf. *paraśūpaka bahuvriham yugānte paryupasthite* : 58. 52. 2. Cf. 30. 320-1.

3. Cf. *na gajam na ratham nāvaṃ jirṇo bhūkte na ca striyam* : 93. 48.

4. Cf. 93. 95-6. 5. Cf. 57. 68

6. Cf. 96. 161. Kha, Ga and Gha *paricārikās*. 7. Cf. 30. 316.

8. Cf. 80. 36. 9. Cf. 95. 33-5. 10. Cf. 45. 20.

11. 58. 51; 58. 57. 12. Cf. 30. 72-3. ;

Śiva came to be known as Nīlakaṇṭha a wife is said to secure a male child and a girl a virtuous husband.<sup>13</sup> This was probably an ideal held out to women. Without the knowledge of her husband, Samjñā, the wife of Vivasvat, had gone to her father's place but he advised her to go home and be dutiful.<sup>14</sup>

There are, however, certain incidents which suggest that wives were loved and respected. Satī, wife of Śiva, was dearer to him than life,<sup>15</sup> and it is at her instigation that Śiva effected the destruction of Dakṣa's sacrifice.<sup>16</sup> In the genealogical lists we have an instance of king Jyāmagha who had no son but still he did not marry again for one.<sup>17</sup>

**Her Status as Mother :** Vivasvat had two wives of whom the first gave birth to Manu and Yama. The second wife, Savarnā, ill-treated Manu and Yama. Manu suffered all the insults with patience but Yama did not bear them and once he kicked his step-mother who being enraged at this rude behaviour cursed him. Yama complained against this to his father Vivasvat but was told that there was no remedy against a mother's curse.<sup>18</sup>

The story of how Garutmat forced away *amṛta* from the custody of gods for the sake of his mother is also alluded to in the geographical chapters of the Purāṇa.<sup>19</sup>

**Immunity from Capital Punishment :** Once it so happened that Viṣṇu killed the mother of Kāvya. Bhṛgu became so angry at this outrageous act of Viṣṇu that he cursed him that he would be born seven times as a mortal on the earth. The expression *strīvadha* is here used to signify heinous crime which particularly upset the temper of Bhṛgu.<sup>20</sup> When king Pṛthu proceeded to vanquish the Earth, the latter, in the form of a cow, pleaded ; "In all the ages of mankind, women are deemed to be free from infliction of death."<sup>21</sup> But the dutiful king set aside the plea on the ground that for many, one may be allowed to suffer.<sup>22</sup> When Kṛṣṇa drew his sword and was about to kill his sister Devakī, Vasudeva intervened and reminded him that it was improper for him, as a Kṣatriya, to kill a woman.<sup>23</sup> (King Mūlaka was afraid of Rāma and that is why he always kept himself surrounded by women.<sup>24</sup> This suggests that women were free from molestation. The same appears to have been the reason why the Asuras fled to the

13. Cf. *gurvīṇī labhate putram kanyā vīndatī satpatim* . 52. 112.

14. Cf. 84. 44-8. 15. Cf. *prānair api prīyām* . 39. 122.

16. Cf. (30. 120 ff. ; cf. also No. 1403 App.) 17. Cf. 95. 32.

18. Cf. *no lakṣyam etasmīthyā tu kartuṃ mātur vacas tava* : 84. 53-60.

19. Cf. No. 989 App.

20. Cf. 97. 137-42.

21. Cf. *evamīhyā ca strīyaḥ prāhuḥ tiryag-yoni-jateṣvapi* . 22. Cf. 62. 159-61.

23. Cf. 98. 224. According to Kṛṣṇa . improper for a Kṣatriya to kill his sister and according to Gha . to kill a woman unnecessarily

24. Cf. 88. 178-9.

protection of the mother of Kāvya which led to the incident of her murder by Viṣṇu and subsequently to the curse of Bhṛgu mentioned above.<sup>25</sup> One of the evil features of the Kali age is that strīvadha will be very common during this period.

**Women and Higher Studies :** There are many instances of women practising penance and *yoga*. The sister of Bṛhaspati, though a married woman—being the wife of Prabhāsa,—is called brahmacāriṇī<sup>26</sup> and had accomplished *yoga*.<sup>27</sup> Samjñā, the wife of Vivasvat, practised austerities in the Śāḍvala forest.<sup>28</sup> Śatarūpā, the female portion of Brahmā, practised severe penance and secured a husband in Svāyambhuva Manu, the male portion of Brahmā.<sup>29</sup> (In the geographical chapters, we find a reference to penance being practised by Umā, the wife of Śiva, on the Kailāsa mountain.<sup>30</sup> Diti, too, practised severe austerities in a forest to secure a son who would be the annihilator of Indra<sup>31</sup> and all the wives of Kaśyapa are called brahma-vādinis.<sup>32</sup>

Similar instances occur in the genealogical lists. The unfortunate king Bāhu, who had lost his kingdom, entered a forest and practised austerities with his wife. This Bāhu was the father of Sagara.<sup>33</sup> The two wives of king Sagara pleased the sage Aurva<sup>34</sup> through their penance.<sup>35</sup> Dhūminī, the wife of king Ajamiḍha, had practised severe austerities for a hundred years.<sup>36</sup>

**Seclusion of Women :** When queen Keśinī, the wife of Sagara, was asked by the sage Aurva to select a boon she did so in the assembly of kings (*nṛpa-saṃsadī*).<sup>37</sup> The wives of gods were present at the sacrifice performed by Dakṣa and received sound drubbing from the Rudras who raided the sacrifice.<sup>38</sup> (On another occasion of a sacrificial performance Brahmā happened to lose his self-control at the beauty of the wives and daughters of gods, who were then present, and his semen fell on the earth.<sup>39</sup>) Soma had seduced Tārā, the wife of Bṛhaspati. During this period Tārā was pregnant and later gave birth to a son. The gods asked her as to who was the father of the child. But Tārā did not reply through bashfulness.<sup>40</sup> All these instances suggest that women could move freely in society.

But in a passage on the construction of forts we have a reference to Kumārīpura as the fort of an artificial kind (*kṛtrima durga*).<sup>41</sup> From this bare mention of Kumārīpura it is difficult to say whether seclusion of women is implied.

25. Cf. 97. 127 ff.

26. Kha, Ga, Gha and Na *brahmavādinī*.

27. Cf. No. 1083 in App.

28. Cf. 67. 88-95.

29. Kha and Gha: Ūrva.

30. Cf. 88. 155-8.

31. Cf. 90. 39-40.

32. Cf. 10. 9-12.

33. Cf. 65. 118.

34. Cf. 88. 155-8.

35. Cf. 30. 154.

36. Cf. 8. 109.

37. *Yoga-siddha* 66. 27-8.

38. Cf. No. 469 in App.

39. Cf. 88. 129.

40. Cf. 99. 212.

41. Cf. 65. 29-31.

The Suttē : King Bāhu who had lost his kingdom and was practising austerities in a forest died of old age and his wife, a Yādava princess (*Yādavī*),—who was at that time pregnant—made preparations for the funeral pyre and set fire to it. While proceeding to ascend it, the Bhārgava Aurva dissuaded her from this act of self-immolation "through pity".<sup>42</sup> It appears that Aurva arrived at the place just at the time when she was about to enter the fire. The fact of her pregnancy and her husband's death in unfortunate circumstances are the points to be noted in this connection. The sage Aurva might have had these considerations in his mind when he "through pity" dissuaded her from her act of self-immolation. Assuming that this was so, one has to admit that the sage Aurva would not have acted in the manner he did but for the considerations referred to above.

Matronymics and the Matriarchate : There are many instances of matronymical names in the Purāṇa. Simhikā was a wife of the Asura Vipracitti and had fourteen sons who were called Saimhikeya Asuras.<sup>43</sup> They hated the Brahmins.<sup>44</sup> The Paulomas and the Kālakeyas, who were Dānavas, were known after their mothers Pulomā and Kālakā respectively.<sup>45</sup> Ālambā, Utkacā, Kṛṣṇā, Nirṛtā, Kapilā, Śivā, and Keśinī were the seven sisters after whom the ganas of Rākṣasas, viz., Ālambeyas, Autkaceyas, Kārṇeyas, Naiṛtas, Kāpileyas, Śaiveyas, (and Keśinīs?) were respectively called.<sup>46</sup> Irāvātī was a Rākṣasī being the daughter of Krodhā. She gave birth to a son who was called after her name.<sup>47</sup> Agnikā, Kambalā, and Vasumatī were the three sisters after whom the three classes of Gandharvas, viz., Āgneyas, Kāmbaleyas and Vasumatī-sutas were so called.<sup>48</sup> Viśālā, a Yakṣa, had four Apśaras as wives, viz., Loheyī, Bharatā, Kṛśāṅgī<sup>49</sup> and Viśālā whose descendants were respectively known as Loheyas, Bharateyas, Kṛśāṅgeyas and Viśāleayas. Thus are these four ganas of Yakṣas well-known in the Purāṇa.<sup>50</sup> The Sauparṇeyas were the descendants of Suparṇā, the Kādraveyas of Kadrū, and the Kṣāṣāyas of Kṣāṣā.<sup>51</sup> Garuḍī is mentioned as Vainateya<sup>52</sup> and Takṣaka as Kādraveya.<sup>53</sup>

The other instances of matronymics are : Viśve Devas after Viśvā, the wife of Dharma;<sup>54</sup> Śādhyas, a class of Devas, after Śādhyā;<sup>55</sup> Sāvārṇa Manu after Savarṇā.<sup>56</sup> Aida (or Aila) Purūravas is the only matronymic found in the genealogical lists.<sup>57</sup>

The sage Kaśyapa said to his wife Kṣāṣā, a Rākṣasī, about her newly-born sons, "A son is devoted to his maternal uncle and a

42. Cf. *Sā tu bhartuḥ citām kṛtvā vahnim tam samarohayat Aurvas tām bhārgavo dṛṣṭvā hāruṇyād vinyavartayat*; for "vahnim tam" Ka has "vahnitam"; 88, 129-33.

43. Cf. 68, 17-9. 44. Cf. *surve brahma-dviṣat ca te* 68, 21. 45. Cf. 68, 23-7.

46. Cf. 69, 170 ff. 47. Cf. *Irāvatyāḥ suto yasmāt tasmad Airāvato smṛtaḥ* 69, 210-1.

48. Cf. 69, 20-3. 49. Kṣa, Gha and Na: *Kṛśāṅgī*. 50. Cf. 69, 14-7.

51. Cf. 69, 67-79. 52. Cf. 1, 137. 53. Cf. 39, 54. 54. Cf. 76, 3.

55. Cf. 66, 3-4. 56. Cf. 88, 52. 57. Cf. 91, 10; 91, 22; also 2, 20.

daughter to her paternal ancestors; a son generally inherits the character of his mother.....your sons have followed the conduct and disposition of their maternal uncle.”<sup>58</sup>

## II. MARRIAGE

Promiscuity: The following episodes in the Purāṇa should be noted in this connection :

- (a) After performing a rājasūya sacrifice, Soma, the eponymous ancestor of the lunar race, had become too much possessed of his power and glory. Lost to all sense of modesty, he seduced Tārā, wife of the Aṅgiras Brhaspati, inspite of the opposition of the Aṅgirasas.<sup>59</sup> The gods and sages requested Soma to allow Tārā to go to her husband but Soma did not yield. This eventually resulted in a terrible war in which Rudra took sides with Brhaspati. The Dānavas, too, took part in the battle, which is mentioned as being *Tārahāmayaṃ*.<sup>60</sup> Brahmā, however, effected a compromise and he himself led Tārā to her husband Brhaspati. Tārā was pregnant at this time and gave birth to a son. The Suras asked her as to whose child it was and after many entreaties she told Brahmā that Soma was the father of the child.
- (b) Budha, son of Soma, invited Ilā for cohabitation and their issue was Purūravas.<sup>61</sup>
- (c) Before entering into conjugal relations with king Purūravas, the Apsaras Urvaśī had made an agreement with him that he should not be seen naked except at the time of intercourse.<sup>62</sup> She expressly laid it down that any breach of this condition meant her immediate separation from him. She also used to keep two goats—her pets—at her bedside.....The Gandharvas, however, became very uneasy about her long absence from the *svarga*. They commissioned Viśvāvasu to effect her separation from Purūravas. At the night-time, Viśvāvasu went to Pratiṣṭhāna, where the king resided with his beloved, and stole away one of the goats. Urvaśī told the king of what had happened but the king, who was then naked, did not do anything for fear of breaking the agreement. The Gandharvas came a second time and took away the second goat. Urvaśī again raised an alarm and said to the king that her two pets were forced away from her. At this Purūravas could not but hunt after the intruders even though he was naked and ran in search of the goats. Thus the agreement came to an end and Urvaśī disappeared.<sup>63</sup>

58. Cf. *Mātulaṃ bhajate putrah pituḥ bhajati kanyakā Yathātilā / haveṇ mātā tathā jilo bhavet sutah ... Mātulaṃ tu anuyātā. te putrah gunavrttibhiḥ* 69 88-97.

59. *sarvān avamatya Aṅgiraḥ-sutān*

60. There is some confusion here about the Dānavas and about the Asura Tāraka and it is difficult to understand the sudden and unwarrantable entry of the Dānavas into the story.

61. *maithunīyā upamantrita*, 85. 17.

62. Cf. *anagnadarśanam saiva akāmāt sahamatitham.*

63. Cf. 91. 10 ff.,

(d) The story regarding the birth of Bharadvāja who continued the line of king Bharata, the son of Dusyanta, may be given here at length for its interesting details :

Bṛhaspati once asked his brother's wife, Mamatā, to get ready for cohabitation with him.<sup>64</sup> She, however, replied that she was pregnant and that compliance with his request would amount to violation of dharma.<sup>65</sup> But Bṛhaspati,<sup>66</sup> cutting short her remonstrance with an angry rebuff, proceeded to gratify his passion forcibly. The child in the womb, however, protested against Bṛhaspati's action which enraged the sage who at once cursed the child that it would be born blind. This union of Bṛhaspati with Mamatā led to the birth of Bharadvāja who later on was adopted by Bharata.<sup>67</sup>

Earlier in the same chapter we find the same story repeated to account for the birth of Dīrghatamas. Here Bṛhaspati is mentioned as the preceptor of the gods (*purodhā yo divaukasām*) and instead of Mamatā Ka reads Samatā.<sup>68</sup>

The Cult of Godharma: The sage Dīrghatamas, whose birth is referred to above, once came by a bull and played with it by firmly holding its horns. His grip was so tight that the bull could not move. The bull, who was really the vehicle of Śiva, was astonished at the unusual strength of Dīrghatamas. He informed the sage that he had come on this earth as a carrier of Tryambaka and that if he were allowed his freedom he would grant him a boon. Still Dīrghatamas was not convinced. The bull then said to him, "We (i.e. bulls) are sinless creatures who do not know the difference between good and bad; nor do we observe any restrictions regarding sexual behaviour. This is known as the cult of the bulls".<sup>69</sup> Dīrghatamas went home profoundly impressed by this new teaching. He approached his younger (brother's?) wife to practise this new cult himself upon her but was expelled for this very reason. It appears that he had to undergo many persecutions and was later on thrown into the river Ganges. The stream of the river brought him to the territory of king Bali who happened to see him and saved his life.<sup>70</sup>

Niyoga: There are two accounts in the Purāṇa which clearly testify to the custom of Niyoga: —

(a) We have already seen how king Bali rescued Dīrghatamas from being drowned. The king later on offered him an assylum

64. Cf. *alamkṛtya tanum svām tu maithunam dehi me śubhe*.

65. Cf. *dharmā saiva vigarhitāḥ*.

66. Cf. *vinnyo nopadeṣṭavyas tvoyā mama kathamecana*.

67. 99. 140 ff. (8 Cf. 99. 36. ff.

69. Cf. *kāryākāryaṁ na vai vidmo gamyāgamyam tathaiiva ca na pāpmāno vayan vipra dharmo hyeṣa govām smṛtaḥ*. Kha, Ga and Gha and Na give readings which are difficult to be construed.

70. Cf. 99. 35 ff.

in his own harem with all kinds of enjoyments.<sup>71</sup> Here the king is mentioned as Vairocana Bali, but really speaking this Bali was a descendant of Turvasu whose genealogical narration is the subject-matter of the chapter.

King Bali once requested Dīrghatamas to beget an issue for him<sup>72</sup> from his wife Sudeśṇā and instructed his queen to that effect. Sudeśṇā, however, felt repulsion at the appearance of the sage, as he was aged and blind, and sent her maid-servant as her substitute. The maid-servant gave birth to two sons whom king Bali claimed as his own but Dīrghatamas set aside his claim and disclosed the truth of the matter to the king. Bali rebuked his queen for her action and again sent her to the sage. Dīrghatamas now told her that if she, with an unperturbed mind, licked his naked frame after anointing it with curds and salt, from top to toe, her desire for sons would be fulfilled. She first hesitated to do so, but the impulse for a son prevailed upon her and she did likewise..... Later on Sudeśṇā gave birth to five sons, viz., Aṅga, Vaṅga, Kaliṅga, Puṇḍra and Brahma.<sup>73</sup> They are mentioned as the Kṣetrāja sons of Bali.<sup>74</sup>

- (b) Vasistha raised an issue on the Kṣetra of king Kalmāṣapāda to continue the line of Ikṣvāku.<sup>75</sup> This issue was Aśmaka.
- (c) Vyāsa too raised issue on the Kṣetra of Vicitravīrya.<sup>76</sup>

**Polygamy:** Many instances of polygamy are observable in the Purāṇa. Bhṛgu had two wives.<sup>77</sup> Dakṣa gave his ten daughters to Dharma, thirteen to Kaśyapa, four to Ariṣtanemi, twenty-seven to Indu, etc.<sup>78</sup> Atharvan had three wives.<sup>79</sup> The third Prajāpati Atri had ten beautiful wives<sup>80</sup> and Viśravas had four.<sup>81</sup> The ten wives of Pulaha were sisters.<sup>82</sup> Diti and Aditi were the two wives of Kaśyapa.<sup>83</sup>

There is a reference to the 16,000 wives of Kṛṣṇa.<sup>84</sup> His father was the lord of thirteen wives of whom seven were the daughters of Devaka.<sup>85</sup> Satrājīt had ten wives all of whom were sisters.<sup>86</sup> Prabhākara married the ten daughters of King Raudrāśva<sup>87</sup> and Gāndhārī and Mādrī were the two wives of Vṛṣṇi.<sup>88</sup> Daśyanti Bharata had three wives<sup>89</sup>. Brhanmanas, Yayāti, Sagara and Bhajamāna had two each<sup>90</sup> while king Ajamīdha had three.<sup>91</sup>

71. Cf. *antaḥpure jugopaincām bhakṣyair bhujyaiś ca tarpayan*.

72. Cf. *santānārtham mahābhāga*.

73. Cf. 99. 67 ff. 74. Cf. 99. 35.

75. *Ikṣvāku-kula vṛddhaye*. Cf. 88. 177, 76. Cf. 99. 235 ff.

77. Cf. 65. 72-3. 78. Cf. 65. 39-42; 10. 26; 65. 118, 91. 21. 79. Cf. 65. 88.

80. Cf. 70. 67. 81. Cf. 70. 32 82. Cf. 69. 204. 83. Cf. 67. 43. 50.

84. Cf. 96. 233 ff. 85. Cf. 96. 159. 86. Cf. 96. 53. 87. Cf. 99. 127.

88. Cf. 96. 17 89. Cf. 99. 137. 90. Cf. 99. 114; 88. 155; 93. 15-6; 96. 3-4.

91. Cf. 99. 167. Ka omits the śloka which refers to the wives of Ajamīdha.

## CHAPTER III

### POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

#### I. KINGSHIP

In the Tretā age, an ideal state of varnāśrama existed. The four varṇas worked in perfect social harmony. This is how Brahmā had then ordained the constitution of the four varṇas.

But somehow or other—(the reason is not stated)—delusion 'again' swayed over the minds of the people who consequently ceased to observe the rules of dharma.<sup>1</sup> There was thus a state of turmoil and mutual conflicts. The people 'again' approached the Prajāpati Svāyam-bhuva Manu. Manu pondered over the *pros* and *cons* of the matter and brooded over Śatarūpā who gave birth to two sons, viz., Priyavrata and Uttānapāda. They were the first to be called kings.<sup>2</sup> From this time onwards are the kings bearers of the royal sceptre and because they please their people they are known as *rājānah*.<sup>3</sup> They are also enjoined to promulgate dharma.<sup>4</sup>

Conception of King's Divinity. In all the manvantaras of the past and the future, the paramount sovereigns are born on this earth bearing a portion of Viṣṇu's personality.<sup>5</sup> Those versed in the Purāṇic tradition say that king Māṁdhātā bore the *corpus* of Viṣṇu.<sup>6</sup> The sage Uttāṅka complemented the king Brhadaśva that he possessed the lustre of Viṣṇu<sup>7</sup> and when Kuvalāśva (son of Brhadaśva) proceeded to annihilate Dhundhu, Lord Viṣṇu entered his body with all his lustre at the direction of Uttāṅka.<sup>8</sup>

King Rāji fought on the side of the gods who had promised him the place of Indra in exchange for his help. He did achieve that honour. Indra, however, afterwards annihilated the sons of Rāji and regained his position.<sup>9</sup> King Dharmaratha had an opportunity to drink *soma* in the company of Indra on the occasion of a sacrifice performed on the Viṣṇupada mountain.<sup>10</sup> We have already seen in connection with the Rājaraṣis that their ultimate goal is the world of Indra. It is said that

1. Cf. *pañca prajāḥ tu tā mohāt tān dharmān na hy apālayan*.

2. Cf. *prathamam tau mahīpati*.

3. Cf. *tataḥ prabhṛti rājāna utpannā dāṇadhārīnaḥ prajānāṁ raṇjanāt caiva rājānaḥ tu abhavan nṛpāḥ*. 4. 57. 51-2.

5. Cf. *Viṣṇor aṁśena jāyante prthivyān cakravartināḥ manvantareṣu sarveṣu atitān āgateṣu vai*, 57, 72.

6. Cf. *Māṁdhātā tu tanur Viṣṇoḥ Purāṇojñāḥ pracakṣate*, 88. 69.

7. Cf. *tṛjaḥ te sum ihā-Viṣṇu*, 88. 41.

8. Cf. *tam āviśat tato Viṣṇur bhagavān svena tṛjaś Uttāṅkasya niyogāt tu*, 88. 49.

9. 92. 76 ff.

10. Omitted in Ga; Gha reads Śukra instead of Śakra, Cf. 99. 102. .



Dāśarathi Rāma fulfilled the desire of gods in the course of his career in Janasthāna.<sup>11</sup> We also find a recommendation that Pṛthu, the first king (*ādīrāja*), should be revered and worshipped by all beings alike.<sup>12</sup> The learned Brahmins, the warriors and the common people should pay homage to the king.<sup>13</sup>

**Functions of a King.** We have seen above how the great sages in their conflict against king Vena reminded him of his words that he would 'protect' the people. We have also a verse sung by the knowers of ancient genealogies,<sup>14</sup> pertaining to the king Ambariṣa, who protected the earth with the force of his two arms and relieved her of the "three pains".<sup>15</sup> There is no indication whatsoever about the exact significance of these "three pains".<sup>16</sup> The successors of Yayāti protected the earth according to dharma.<sup>17</sup> In the reign of king Dūryaya there was no loss or theft of property and the people were well protected.<sup>18</sup> The same was the case with Kārtavīrya Arjuna who protected his subjects according to dharma. He is again styled as the "protector of cattle and agriculture" (?).<sup>19</sup> The *janapadas* of Kāliṅga, etc. "will be protected" by Guha.<sup>20</sup>

An expression like "pleasing the people" is also used in connection with the origin of kingship and what is implied in this expression is probably indicated in the statement regarding Yayāti which runs thus: "King Yayāti" pleased (*atarpayat*) the gods with sacrifices, the ancestors with performance of śrāddha, the poor with favour (*anugraha*), the Brahmins with what they desired, the guests with food and drink, the Vaiśyas with protection, the Śūdras with equity (*ānṛśamsa*) and the Dasyus with due control (*saṁnigraheṇa*). Thus did he entertain (*anurañjayat*) his people according to dharma as a second Indra himself.<sup>21</sup> Of the great and wise kings it is said that they see their subjects through their happiness.<sup>22</sup>

Side by side with the protection of the people, there was also the duty to protect or to observe the rules of dharma. King Pṛthu was the protector of dharma.<sup>23</sup> Rathavara of Krostu line always followed dharma<sup>24</sup> and similar was the case with Nābhāga, grandson of Bhagīratha.<sup>25</sup> The great *sattra*, at which the Purāṇa was recited, was performed by the sages in the reign of the king Adhisāma-Kṛṣṇa who was ruling on this earth according to dharma.<sup>26</sup> King Sagara is styled as "victorious in dharma".<sup>27</sup> Brahmā had conferred a boon on king Bali

11. Cf. 88. 194. 12. Cf. *namasyas caiva pūjyas ca bhūtagrāmeṇa sarvataḥ*.

13. Cf. 63. 5-10. 14. Cf. *vamśa-purāṇajñāḥ*. 15. Cf. *tāpa-traya-vivarjitā*.

16. Cf. 88. 171-2. 17. Cf. 93. 91. 18. Cf. 94. 53-4.

19. Cf. *sa eṣa paśupālo' bhūt kṣetra-pālas tathaiva ca*. 94. 22-4. 20. Cf. 99. 386.

21. Cf. 93. 65-7. 22. Cf. *ṛṣanti rañjanād yasmāt prajā rājarṣayoḥ smṛtāḥ* 61. 87.

23. Cf. *dharmasya goptā* 62. 106. 24. Cf. *dātā dharmarato miyam* : 95. 42.

25. Cf. 88. 170. 26. Cf. 99. 258-9. 27. Cf. *dharmavijayī* : 88. 144.

that he would be adept in matters of dharma and artha.<sup>28</sup> Dharma is one of the four striking features of a king in the Tretā age.<sup>29</sup> Attributes such as *dharmātmā*, *dharmajña*, *dharmārthakovidā*, *dhārmika*, *parama-dhārmika*, *sudharmātmā*, *dharmasīla*, etc., occur frequently in the description of kings in the genealogical lists.<sup>30</sup>

We have seen that King Yayāti deviated from the rules of dharma by appointing his youngest son Puru as his successor; but he had to convince the people about the propriety of his action. Similarly, Trayyārūna expelled his son Satyavrata because he followed adharma.<sup>31</sup> Vena arrogantly asserted that he was above dharma and he met his ruin on that very account.

Kings and Danda. The connection of the king with *Danda* has already been indicated in the account of the origin of kingship. Danda is also the most important function of the Ksatriyas/ King Danda is called 'Wielder of danda'.<sup>32</sup> In the Śākadvīpa, it is stated, there is no danda, nor any one to wield it. The people who knew well the dharma, protected each other by virtue of their own dharma. They had also no taxes to pay.<sup>33</sup> In the Puskara-dvīpa Brahmā himself wields the danda.<sup>34</sup>

The *danda-nīti* was brought into existence in the Tretā age—in which kingship originated for the establishment of (peace and ?) order.<sup>35</sup> Promulgation of the *danda-nīti* along with *vārtā* etc. by Manu and the seven sages is already referred to. Śukra (or Kāvya) told the vanquished Asuras that he would evolve a *nīti* for them and that he would go to Mahādeva for certain mantras which would procure them victory.<sup>36</sup> It is not clear, however, whether *nīti* here means *danda-nīti* or any other *nīti* connected with the affairs of orderly government.

Devolution of Kingship: There is no reference to election of a king in the Vāyu Purāṇa. Hereditary succession was the general rule and the office of the king devolved on his eldest heir after his demise. This means that the rule of primogeniture was followed. In the genealogical lists, if many sons of a particular king are mentioned, we find only the genealogy of the eldest son further traced. For example, Kuvalāśva had three sons of whom Dṛḍhāśva was the eldest whose genealogy is then continued.<sup>37</sup> Kakudmin was the eldest amongst the

28. Cf. 99. 29-31. 29 Cf. 57. 74.

30. 86. 9; 88. 77, 88. 65-6; 88. 48; 88. 120-1; 88. 165-7, 88. 201-5; 99. 219; 99. 189-91; 99. 84, 99. 18; 95. 23-5 95. 36-9; 93. 9-11, 92, 68-72; 91. 1-4; 89. 116, 88. 180-4; 89. 94, 3. etc.; cf. also 2. 24, 33. 53. etc.

31. Cf. 88. 81-4. 32 Cf. *rājā danda-dhara Damah* 86. 12.

33. Cf. *Karotpatir na teṣu asti na danda na ca danda-kāḥ sva-dharmena-sva dharmajñas te rakṣanti parasparam*: 49. 103. 34. Cf. 49. 140; cf. also 49. 115-8.

35. Cf. *maryādā-sthāpanārtham ca danda-nītiḥ pravartate* 57. 82.

36. Cf. *nītiḥ vo hi vidhāsyāmi yasyāmy ahaṁ Mahādevam mantrārthe vijayāya vah.* 97. 105-6. 37. Cf. 88. 60 ff.

hundred sons of Reva whose line he continued.<sup>38</sup> That the rule of primogeniture was probably a settled law or usage regarding the succession to the throne becomes obvious from the nature of the objection raised by the people against king Yayāti's selection of his youngest son as his consecrated heir.

But there are also numerous instances suggesting a division of the kingdom. From the nature of their contents these instances have been presented in three separate categories :

(a) Manu had ten sons amongst whom he divided the earth. The share of Sudyumna—( who had once been a female )—went to Purūravas, his ( or her ) son.<sup>39</sup> The four sons of Daśaratha had their own shares in the kingdom of their father and their descendants established separate lines in their respective territories.<sup>40</sup> Even though consecration of Puru had taken place we find king Yayāti actually assigning portions of his kingdom to his other four sons too.<sup>41</sup> King Rukmakavaca had five sons of whom the eldest son Rukmesu ( or Brahmesu ) became king with the second son as his protégé.<sup>42</sup> To the youngest two was assigned the territory of Videha by their father. The third son Jyāmagha was probably without a share and was expelled by his brothers. He passed some period in exile and later carved a kingdom for himself in the region about the river Narmadā and the mountain Ṛkṣa.<sup>43</sup>

(b) King Bali had five sons all of whom were consecrated by him. The janapadas of these five sons, ( viz., Anga, Vanga, Kalinga, Puṇḍra and Brahma ) are also mentioned.<sup>44</sup> Janāpīda had four sons, viz. Pāṇḍya, Cola, Kerala and Kulya, whose respective janapadas were called after them.<sup>45</sup> It should be noted that the genealogies of these four sons are not further stated. In the same manner the janapadas of the four sons of Auśīnara Śibi,<sup>46</sup> as well as of the five sons of Ṛkṣa are mentioned.<sup>47</sup>

Pracetas had hundred sons all of whom were kings.<sup>48</sup> They were the lords of the countries of the Mlecchas and ruled in the north.<sup>49</sup> Nīpa had hundred sons all of whom were kings known as Nīpas.<sup>50</sup>

(c) Agnīdhra consecrated his nine sons as kings and then retired to the forest life.<sup>51</sup> Priyavrata had ten sons amongst whom he divided the earth of the seven dvīpas.<sup>52</sup> The hundred sons of Śatajit were all of them kings<sup>53</sup> and the same is the description about the hundred sons of Vairocana Bali.<sup>54</sup>

38. Cf. 84. 25. 39. Cf. 85. 20-3. 40. Cf. 88. 187-200 41. Cf. 93. 88-90.

42. Cf. *taḍ-āśrayaḥ*, but Kḥ, Gha and Na read *taḍāśrayaḥ* 43. Cf. 95. 27-32.

44. Cf. 99. 33-4; cf. also 99. 98. 103 45. Cf. 99. 5-6.

46. Cf. No. 705 in App. 47. Cf. No. 927 in App.

48. Cf. *rājānaḥ sarva eva te*. 49. Cf. 99. 11-2 50. Cf. 99. 175.

51. Cf. 33. 46. 52. Cf. No. 433 in App.

53. Cf. *rājānaḥ sarva et a te* 33. 60. 54. Cf. 67. 82.

**The Consecration of a King and its Importance :** It is stated of king Pṛthu, that the sprinkling ceremony was performed for him in the *rājasūya* according to Vedic injunctions.<sup>55</sup> Pṛthu's connection with the origin of kingship and the details of his consecration ceremony have already been noted. There is also a passage showing how the various beings and things have their respective "consecrated lords".<sup>56</sup> It should be noted that Puru is said to have been consecrated to *Svārājya*.<sup>57</sup> Stray references to consecrations of individual kings occur occasionally in the Purāṇa. Bṛhadaśva consecrated his son Kuvalāśva to his kingdom.<sup>58</sup> Bali performed the ceremony for all his five sons.<sup>59</sup> It is said that Munika (i.e. Pradyota ?) "will kill" his master and consecrate his son to the throne.<sup>60</sup> The Brahmins who had brought about the ruin of king Janamejaya consecrated his son Śātānika. Here consecrations by kings or Brahmins should be noted. There are also references to performance of the *rājasūya* ceremony by Soma and Hariscandra.<sup>61</sup>

It is said that the kings of the Kali age "will be" like the Yavanas in matters of dharma, artha and kāma and "will not be sprinkled on their heads".<sup>62</sup> But the instance of Munika's son should be noted in this connection.

**Aśvamedha .** The aśvamedha was a sacrifice specially meant for a king and instances of the kings who had performed this sacrifice have already been mentioned.

**Vājapeya :** The Vājapeya sacrifice was also performed by kings of whom we have only a few instances in our Purāṇa

The following statements about these three rituals are significant . A donor of cots, lands and vehicles in śrāddha is said to obtain the merits of the performance of an aśvamedha.<sup>63</sup> By muttering the syllables of *Om* one achieves more merit than a king who performs aśvamedha every month.<sup>64</sup> By making a gift of a beautiful homestead (*āvasatha*) to a Brahmin in śrāddha the donor gets the merits of the performance of a rājasūya<sup>65</sup> and a gift of woollen and linen clothes together with golden ornaments is equal in sanctity to the performance of a vājapeya.<sup>66</sup>

## II. POPULAR INSTITUTIONS

**Samiti :** There is only a solitary reference to Samiti in our text. Brhatī was a daughter of Brhaduktha. Her three sons are styled as "ornaments of the assembly" (?).<sup>67</sup>

55. Cf. *Rājasūye'bhīṣiktas ca Pṛthur .. Veda-dr̥ṣṭena vidhinvā kṛto rājā pratāpavān*, 70. 21. 56. Cf. 70 1, ff 57. Cf. 93, 88, Ka : *Svarājya*.

58. Cf. 88. 32. *raṣṭre*, Gha. *rājye*. 59. Cf. 99. 98-100. 60. Cf. 99. 310.

61. Cf. 90. 25 ; 88. 118 ¶ 62. Cf. *naiva mūrdhābhīṣiktās te bhaviṣyanti*, 99. 389.

63 Cf. 80. 26-7. 64. Cf. 20. 16-7. 65. Cf. 80. 30. 66. Cf. 80. 34-5.

67. Cf. *samiti-śobhanāḥ* 96. 246-7.

**Sabhā :** The expression '*sabhā*' occurs frequently in a variety of senses and the following references are classified accordingly :

(a) The *sabhā* of Kubera on the Kailāsa mountain is called *Vipulā* (i.e. literally 'spacious').<sup>68</sup> In the description of the Meru mountain *sabhās* of many gods are mentioned.<sup>69</sup> The *sabhās* of Mahendra and others were situated to the north of the Mānasa lake.<sup>70</sup> Here *sabhā* probably means a temple or a mansion.

(b) The merit of listening to the story of Dakṣa-Śiva conflict is that one is able to secure an admission to the *sabhā* of a king.<sup>71</sup> Here *sabhā* probably signifies the royal court.

✓ (c) In the course of Dakṣa's prayer to Śiva, there is a reference to *sabhā*.<sup>72</sup>

(d) In the midst of the *sabhā*, Janārdana (i.e. Kṛṣṇa) addressed Akrūra thus : "Venerable sir, please hand over to me the jewel (i.e. the *syamantaka*) which is in your possession." Without any hesitation Babhru (i.e. Akrūra) acceded to the request of Kṛṣṇa and passed the jewel on to him "in the assembly of the Sātvatas" (*sarva-Sātvata-saṁsadi*).<sup>73</sup> *Sabhā* here has a synonym in *saṁsad* which meant an 'assembly'.

(e) King Kārtavīrya Arjuna conquered the Karkotaka-*sabhā* in the city of Māhismatī (together with) the thousand Nāgas.<sup>74</sup> The *sabhā* of Karkotaka was, it appears, a representative institution of the Nāgas.

**Gana** :—As in the case of *sabhā*, "gana" also has different shades of meaning and hence references to it have been presented here in the same manner :

(a) *Gaṇas* of Kinnaras, Vidyādharas, Yaksas and Gandharvas are enumerated and their names are mentioned in the narration of the progeny of Kaśyapa.<sup>75</sup> Similarly *gaṇas* of Devas are described and named.<sup>76</sup> Here 'gaṇa' is used in a general and collective sense.

(b) There is a reference to Saimhikeya *gana* of Daityas which was ten thousand strong.<sup>77</sup> They were the descendants of the fourteen sons of Simhikā, who was a wife of the Daitya Vipracitti.<sup>78</sup> Hālāhala was a name of a *gana* which comprised of a hundred thousand descendants of Vāyu and Sinivālī (grandsons of Hiranyakaśipu).<sup>79</sup> Yātudhānas, Brahmadhānas and Vārtas were the three *gaṇas* of Rākṣasas who were active in the day time (*divācarāḥ*) and those who wandered about in the night time (*niśācarāḥ*) were known by the four *gaṇas* of Paulastyas, Nairṛtas,

68 Cf. No 469, App 69 Cf. No 8:8 in App 70. Cf 1 92

71. Cf. *yāti sabhāyām pārthivasya ca* 54 105.

72. 70. 279.

73. Cf 96. 90-5.

74 Cf 94. 26.

75. Cf 69. 15 ff.

76 Cf 64. 2-4; 100. 13-20, 100. 111.

77. Cf *daīānyāni sah īsrāni Saimhikeyo gaṇah smṛtaḥ*.

78. Cf. 68. 17-21.

79. Cf. 67. 74-5.

Āgastyas and Kauśikas. Thus, in all, there were seven *jātis* of Rākṣasas. Here *jāti* is equivalent to a *gana*.<sup>80</sup> Hiranyākṣa had five sons whose descendants were known as the Bāḍeya *gaṇa*.<sup>81</sup> Rāma annihilated Rāvana together with his *ganās*.<sup>82</sup> In almost all these instances "gaṇa" appears to denote a sort of organization based on the hereditary principle.

(c) The Aṅga, Śāṅkha and Varāha dvīpas are said to have been inhabited by numerous *ganās* of Mlecchas. These dvīpas are the subdivisions of the Jambūdvīpa.<sup>83</sup> Various *ganās* of Mlecchas occupy the Ketumāladvīpa<sup>84</sup> and the same is said of the Śaravana.<sup>85</sup> Here the association of *gana* with Mlecchas should be noted.

(d) In the chapters on śrāddha occurs a statement that one who regularly performs śrāddha on the seventh day of every pakṣa is sure to become a lord of *ganās*.<sup>86</sup> This 'gana' apparently indicates a kind of organisation.

(e) Once upon a time the sages had some business to be transacted. After having assembled on the Meru mount for that very purpose they resolved thus : "This is our resolution"<sup>87</sup> that whosoever does not turn up here within a period of seven nights from today shall be deemed to have incurred the sin of the murder of a Brahmin." According to the requirements of this resolution all the sages—with the exception of Vaiśampāyana—were present "with their *ganās*" (*sagaṇāḥ*) on that occasion when the transaction of the notified business had been arranged (*yatra saṁdhiḥ kṛto 'bhavat*) Vaiśampāyana had thus become subjected to the sin and later he tried to be purified of it.<sup>88</sup> The terms *saṁaya* and *saṁdhi* should be noted. Here *gana* is certainly indicative of an organization of some kind.

(f) The Dhārṣṭaka<sup>89</sup> Kṣattrā was composed of a *gana* of three thousand Kṣatriyas. Nābhāga is said to be powerful as he was backed by a *gaṇa* of a thousand Kṣatriyas.<sup>90</sup> King Sagara annihilated a number of *ganās* of Kṣatriyas, viz., the Śakas, Yavanas, Pāradas, etc.<sup>91</sup> Of the Haihayas there were five *ganās*, viz., Virahotras, Bhojas, Āvartis, Tuṇḍikeras and Tālajaṅghas.<sup>92</sup> Here the association of the Kṣatriyas with 'gaṇa' should be noted.

Janapadas :—The expression 'janapada' is used sometimes as a geographical term and sometimes in the sense of a tribe or people occupy-

80. Cf. 70 55-6

81. Cf. *teṣāṁ putrāś ca pūtrāś ca Bāḍeyāḥ sa gaṇaḥ mṛtaḥ*, 67 67-9, Ga Vāleya.

82. Cf. 70. 48, 18. 197

83. No. 437, App. 84 No 27, App. 85. Cf 41. 46

86. Cf. *gaṇānām adhiḥ bhavet*, 81. 14.

87. Cf. *saṁayo naḥ prakṛtiḥ*. 88. 61 12 ff.

89. Kha, Gha and Na Dhārṣṭyaka, Cf 88. 4-5. (Here the text is confusing and the above rendering is liable to be doubtful.)

90. Cf. *sahasra-Kṣatriya-gana-vikrānto Nābhāgo*, 86. 3.

91. No. 345-App. 92. Cf. 94. 51-2.

ing a particular region called after them. We have also some information on the Paura-Jānapadas. The following references have been arranged accordingly :

(a) Janapada as a Geographical Term : The earth is described as including many janapadas.<sup>93</sup> The extent of several janapadas is also described.<sup>94</sup> The janapada in the centre of Tāmra-varṇa mountain covers an area of a hundred yojanas.<sup>95</sup> At the end of the Kali age, people will be flying from their janapadas and will be seeking refuge in the outlying territories (*pratyantān*).<sup>96</sup> The janapadas that "will be ruled" by the Guptas are also mentioned.<sup>97</sup> The janapada is also a synonym for '*deśa*'<sup>98</sup>

(b) Janapada Signifying a Tribe or People We have an allusion to cities and "jubilant" janapadas.<sup>99</sup> Again janapadas 'drinking' the waters of rivers are alluded to.<sup>100</sup> At the end of the Kali age, the janapadas will be following the customs of the Mlecchas.<sup>101</sup> It is not certain, however, whether the janapadas mentioned in the genealogical lists signified peoples or tribes or they merely indicated the regions of those names.

(c) The Paura-Jānapadas : The Paura-Jānapadas are mentioned in connection with the selection of Puru by Yayāti. Similarly, king Janamejaya is said to have been forsaken by the Paura-Jānapadas and he was never at rest. We have one instance in which only the *Pauras* are mentioned. King Sagara, it is stated, expelled his son Asamañja because the latter was engaged in activities prejudicial to the Pauras.<sup>102</sup>

93. Cf. *nānā-jana-padāhīnā*, 50. 2. 94. Cf. 44. 3 ; 46. 73-4 etc.

95. No. 1302 App. 96. Cf. 58. 96. 97. No. 708 App.

98. See Nos. 608, 524 App.

99. Cf. 9. 113. 100. Cf. 45. 93. 101. No. 844 App.

102. Cf. *Paurāṇām śhite yuktāḥ pitṛā nirudītaḥ purā*, 68. 166.

## CHAPTER IV

## RELIGION

### I. ŚAIVISM

'Maheśvara, the Supreme God: Śiva is called Mahādeva because he excels all the gods, sages and Asuras in point of *tejas*.' 'As Hara is the greatest (*varīṣṭha*) of all the gods so is his prayer, which is compiled by Brahmā himself, the greatest of all the prayers.'<sup>2</sup> 'He is also called the god of gods<sup>3</sup> and as the greatest amongst the best of Suras and Asuras.<sup>4</sup> Again he is the senior-most amongst the Devas<sup>5</sup> The gods, sages, Pitṛs and Dānavas worship Īśa because they are afraid of Kāla (i.e., the same as Mahādeva)<sup>6</sup>

Śiva also figures as the great creator of the universe. He is the real creator, supporter and the destroyer of the world.<sup>7</sup> 'From him are born the seven sages, gods and manes.<sup>8</sup> He is the source of the mountains, seas, etc.<sup>9</sup> He is called *Sthānu* because after creating this world he stood motionless till the time of deluge<sup>10</sup> He himself asserts that he is the creator of the Yugas and of Kāla.<sup>11</sup> He is frequently mentioned as the lord of the universe, and of the three worlds.<sup>12</sup>

The status of Śiva amongst the deities of the Vāyu Purāṇa is best realized from his relation to the other great gods, viz., Viṣṇu and Brahmā. The gods and sages were afraid of the four-faced Kāla and approached Mahādeva for relief. The latter explained to them the true nature of Kāla and asserted that Brahmā was worshipped in the Kṛta-yuga, Yajña in Tretā, Viṣṇu in Dvāpara and he himself in all the ages.<sup>13</sup> Brahmā and Viṣṇu jointly offer a prayer to Śiva who is consequently pleased and confers upon them a boon. Here Śiva himself says that Brahmā is his right arm and Viṣṇu the left. The real creator is Śiva, the two gods being only his functionaries.<sup>14</sup> 'Dakṣa, in the course of his prayer to Śiva, says that Brahmā, Govinda and the ancient sages are unable to measure his greatness.<sup>15</sup> Viṣṇu once proposed to Brahmā that both of them should adore Maheśvara with a *stotra*. But the latter angrily spurned the idea and demanded as to who this Śamkara was, excelling both of them. Viṣṇu, however, pacified Brahmā and explained to him how Śiva was the real creator and Viṣṇu, the field of creation and Brahmā, the seed of it.<sup>16</sup> This was enough to reconcile Brahmā and

1. Cf. 10. 66-7. 2. Cf. 30. 307

3. Cf. *deva-deva*, 23. 98-9, *deva-deva* 54. 3. 4. Cf. 55. 65-8.

5. Cf. *Devānām jyēṣṭha* : 15. 10 6. Cf. 32. 35.

7. Cf. 55. 37 ff. 3. 1 ; 1. 205. 8. Cf. 32. 4-5 9. Cf. 24. 96-100.

10. Cf. 10. 64. 11. Cf. 32. 7-26. 12. Cf. 1. 3-4 ; 69. 44, Cf. also 30. 289.

13. Cf. 32. 7-26. 14. Cf. *hetumātrā* 55. 51-65. 15. Cf. 30. 26-9.

16. Cf. *oṣa bījī bhavān bījam ahaṁ yonih sandānanah*.



then both of them offered the prayer to Śiva.<sup>17</sup> 'Viṣṇu, though he is prayed to by all the gods, himself adores Śiva.<sup>18</sup> 'Viṣṇu vanquished Bali and was congratulated by gods and sages. But Viṣṇu attributed his greatness to Śiva.<sup>19</sup> 'It is stated that in the 22nd Kalpa, Viṣṇu, in the form of Meghin, was a carrier of Maheśvara for the period of a thousand divine years. Once, being too much hard-pressed by the burden of Śiva, Viṣṇu heaved out a breath from which arose Kāla.<sup>20</sup>

'There is, however, a solitary statement that all the three gods are merely manifestations of the one Supreme God.<sup>21</sup>

Rudra, the Malevolent. 'He is called the god of death as well as the destroyer of death itself.<sup>22</sup> 'He has always a fascination for the cremation-ground<sup>23</sup> and loves the funeral ashes.<sup>24</sup> 'He wanders naked with skulls in the hands.<sup>25</sup> In the Kṛṣṇa-Kalpa he was the terror itself but to those who knew him he was benevolent.<sup>26</sup> 'He is also identified with the terrible Kāla of whom the gods and sages were afraid.<sup>27</sup> Epithets such as *su-ghora*,<sup>28</sup> *naraka* (hell),<sup>29</sup> *kuṣṭha* (crooked),<sup>30</sup> *bhīma*, *ugra* (terrible),<sup>31</sup> *krūra* (cruel), *vikṛta*, *bībhatsa*, *bhīṣaṇa*, *kapāla*, *mṛtyu*,<sup>32</sup> *duḥsaha*, *durvāraṇa*,<sup>33</sup> frequently occur in connection with the god. He is called the bearer of terrible forms.<sup>34</sup> 'Śiva is also called Vāma-deva as he had attained vāmadevatva through vāmatva yoga.<sup>35</sup>

'Names of Śiva : Śiva is referred to by many names in the Purāṇa and only the important amongst them have been noted.<sup>36</sup>

*Maheśvara*,<sup>37</sup> *Śamkara*,<sup>38</sup> *Mahādeva*,<sup>39</sup> *Hara*,<sup>40</sup> *Rudra*,<sup>41</sup> *Śarva*,<sup>42</sup> *Bhava*,<sup>43</sup> *Śambhu*,<sup>44</sup> *Sthāṇu*,<sup>45</sup> *Īśāna*,<sup>46</sup> *Vāmadeva*,<sup>47</sup> *Paśupati*,<sup>48</sup> *Bhūta-pati*,<sup>49</sup> *Kapardin*,<sup>50</sup> *Vṛṣabhadhvaja*,<sup>51</sup> *Tripuraghaṇa*,<sup>52</sup> *Tri-netra*,<sup>53</sup> and *Nilakaṇṭha*, etc. etc.

The story of the eight names of Śiva also occurs in the Purāṇa. These names, which were given by Brahmā to the eight sons of Śiva, i.e., the various forms of Śiva himself, are : Rudra, Bhava, Śiva, Paśupati, Īśa, Bhīma, Ugra and Mahādeva.<sup>54</sup>

17. The prayer is known as "Śāntastava." Omitted in Kha, Gha and Na : Cf. 24. 60 ff., cf. also 1. 72-3.

18. Cf. 1. 105. 19. Cf. 55. 1-10 20. Cf. 21. 50-2, 21. Cf. 1. 132.

22. Cf. 24. 128. 23. Cf. *īśāṇa-ratnamyāya* 24. 140.

24. Cf. *śūta-bhasmaprasna* 30. 201. 25. Omitted in Ka, Cf. 24. 129.

26. Cf. *aghora* 23. 74-6. 27. Cf. 32. 8. ff 28. Cf. 24. 120-3. 29. Cf. 24. 116.

30. Cf. 30. 196-8. 31. Cf. 97. 166-71. 32. Cf. 97. 172-81. 33. Cf. 30. 263.

34. Cf. *ghora-rūpa-dhṛk* 55. 51-5, Cf. also No. 1403 App. 35. Cf. 23. 69-71.

36. The references are only illustrative and not exhaustive.

37. Cf. 34. 38-9; 55. 51-5; 55. 65-8 38. Cf. 39. 42; 55. 65-8.

39. Cf. 40. 20-6, 34. 38-9; 69. 44. 40. Cf. 30. 307. 41. Cf. 21. 71; 10. 70.

42. Cf. 47. 27; 97. 166-71; 1. 152 43. Cf. 47. 29-31; 92. 28-37.

44. Cf. 30. 211-2. 45. Cf. 10. 64. 46. Cf. 97. 182-90. 47. Cf. 23. 69-71.

48. Cf. 30. 89; 24. 10 -7, 97. 191-202. 49. Cf. 50. 30 ff.; 40. 20-6; 39. 42.

50. Cf. 97. 162-5; 24. 129. 51. Cf. 10. 7-8. 52. Cf. 97. 182-90.

53. Cf. 97. 172-81. 54. Cf. 27. 1-16.

### Important Myths about Śiva :

(1) The story of Dakṣa's sacrifice : In the Svāyambhuva manvantara Dakṣa had eight daughters of whom Satī, the wife of Śiva, was the eldest. Maheśvara had no respect for his father-in-law. Once Dakṣa invited his daughters (excluding Satī) to his place. Satī came to know that she was not invited but still she went to her father, who, however, showed her scant courtesy. She expressed her resentment at the treatment meted out to her. Dakṣa, however, replied that Bhava was inimical towards him<sup>55</sup> and that was the reason which prompted him to treat her like that. He further added that his other sons-in-law were, as compared with Tryambaka, more deserving of honour and respect. This was adding insult to injury and Satī, enraged as she was, said to her father that she would thenceforward cease to be his daughter. She informed her husband about what had happened and consigned herself to flames. God Maheśvara was now angry and he cursed Dakṣa that he would be born again.

As a result of this curse Dakṣa was reborn as Prācetasā Dakṣa. Once, at the source of the river Gaṅgā, Dakṣa started a sacrificial session. It is said<sup>56</sup> that the gods went to the place of the sacrifice with their own vehicles. All the beings were invited and attended the session. Dadhīci, however, felt uneasy at the whole affair and exclaimed, "This man (i.e. Dakṣa) is certainly committing a heinous sin in adoring the undeserved and in neglecting the deserved."<sup>57</sup> Turning towards Dakṣa he said, "Why don't you invite the venerable lord of the *paśus*?" Dakṣa replied that he did not know the god Maheśvara any more than the Rudras of whom he had seen many. Dadhīci reminded him that he was following an improper policy but Dakṣa neglected his advice and offered oblations to Viṣṇu as his favourite deity.

In the meanwhile, Umā, the wife of Śiva, had seen the gods going to attend the sacrifice and asked her husband as to why he was not invited. Śiva replied that under the arrangement made by the Suras there was no provision for his portion in the oblations offered in all the sacrifices.<sup>58</sup> Umā was pained to hear this and took the whole affair as a mark of disrespect towards her husband. Śiva tried to convince her that this was not so but Umā was not impressed and rebuked her husband that he knew well only to praise himself in the assembly of women. The taunt had its effect on Śiva who from his wrath created Virabhadra and commissioned him to destroy the sacrifice of Dakṣa. Virabhadra, with his host of Rudras, raided the sacrifice and played havoc at that place.

55. Cf. *pratikūlo hi me Bhavaḥ*.

56. *iti śrutīḥ*.

57. Cf. *apūjya-pūjane caiva pūjyānām cāṇḍapūjane naraḥ pāpam avāpnoti mahad vaś nātra samśayaḥ*.

58. Cf. *Surair eva mahābhāge saram etad anuṣṭhitam yajñeṣu mama sarveṣu na bhāge upakalpiṣaḥ*.

The gods and Dakṣa beseeched Virabhadra but he directed them to appeal to lord Śiva. Dakṣa then prayed to Śiva who appeared before him, after having arisen from the sacrificial fire.....Here we find the text of the lengthy prayer addressed by Dakṣa to Maheśvara.<sup>59</sup>

(2) The story of how Śiva come to be known as Nīlakaṇṭha : In former times, the gods and the demons had started "churning of the ocean" for *amṛta* but at first a deadly poison issued out of it. All of them went to Brahmā but the latter told them that he was helpless and that only Śiva would be able to help them. Brahmā then prayed to Śiva and requested him to drink the poison. Śiva acceded to the request and thenceforward he came to be known as "blue-necked".<sup>60</sup>

(3) Story of the origin of Liṅga is given in the following pages in another context.

(4) The story of the destruction of Vārāṇasī is given elsewhere.<sup>61</sup>

Śiva's Associates :

(i) The Bhūtas : Śiva and Umā enjoyed their stay in the Umāvana in the company of the Bhūtas.<sup>62</sup> The Bhūtas entertain Śiva with dance and music by playing on various instruments.<sup>63</sup> The Bhūtas, residing at Bhūta-vata, a mansion of Śiva, have faces of various animals and hairy skin.<sup>64</sup> They adore Śiva in various forms.<sup>65</sup> Bhūtī (or Bhūtā), the wife of Kaśyapa, gave birth to the Bhūtas who were the followers of Rudra. They had various forms, mostly hideous, and are called terrible like the Rākṣasas, with skulls in their hands, horrible and crooked. They have neither wives nor children and are always *ūrdhvaretasah*.<sup>66</sup> Śiva is called the "consecrated lord" of the Bhūtas and Piśācas.<sup>67</sup>

(ii) The Rudras : They are born of Śiva.<sup>68</sup> At the time of their birth they began to weep and run away, that is why they are called Rudras.<sup>69</sup> They figure more in the story of the sacrifice of Dakṣa than elsewhere. They helped Virabhadra in his raid on the sacrifice.

(iii) The Asuras, Rākṣasas, Daityas, etc. : Śiva is called the lord of the Rākṣasas.<sup>70</sup> He is worshipped by Suras and Asuras alike<sup>71</sup> and is called the best amongst the Suras and Asuras.<sup>72</sup> Hundreds of the gāpas of the Rākṣasas follow (*anucaranti*), Śaṁkara, the lord of the world.<sup>73</sup> The Nairṛta-Rākṣasas adore Tryambaka.<sup>74</sup> In the story of the destruction of Vārāṇasī we find Ksemaka, an attendant of Śiva, mentioned as a Rākṣasa.<sup>75</sup> In a mantra addressed to Śiva he is styled as Asura.<sup>76</sup>

59. Cf. Chapt. 30.

60. Cf. Chapt. 54.

61. Cf. No. 1403 App.

62. Cf. 41. 32-6.

63. Cf. 40. 24-5.

64. Cf. 40. 21-3. 65. Cf. 37. 89.

66. Cf. 69. 242-56.

67. Cf. 50. 7-8.

68. Cf. 55. 40-41.

69. Cf. 9. 75-80; 10. 43-60.

70. Cf. *Rakṣodhīpati* 24. 109.

71. Cf. 30. 317.

72. Cf. 55. 65-8.

73. Cf. 69. 175.

74. Cf. 69. 173.

75. Cf. 92. 68.

76. Cf. "tvam agne rudro asuro ma o divas tram śardho mārutam prṇṣa iṣṣe", etc.

(iv) Munis : Besides these, the Piśācas, Vināyakas, Nāgas, Yakṣas, Gandharvas, etc., are also associated with Śiva. Kubera, the lord of the Yakṣas, was a friend of Mahādeva.<sup>77</sup> In the house where Śiva is prayed, there shall be no danger from the Vināyakas, Piśācas, Nāgas, Yakṣas, etc.<sup>78</sup> The Nāgas and the others worship Śiva<sup>79</sup>. Śiva, in his future avatāras, will have four sons in each avatāra. They are often mentioned as Kumārakas.<sup>80</sup>

The Ādityas, Siddhas, Vasus, etc., are also associated with Śiva but there is nothing striking in this association.

Śiva, Tapas and Yoga : Śiva says to Brahmā that those who see through tapas the *Śivatva* as pervading everything are sure to be one with Śiva. For them rebirth is not possible.<sup>81</sup> To the same god he elsewhere states that since he has known Śiva as being on the *guhya-pada* by means of his own penance, those who do likewise shall achieve unity with Śiva without any fear of rebirth.<sup>82</sup> Śiva is 'hunted after' (*mṛgyate*) by Yatis who are afflicted with misery.<sup>83</sup> In his prayer to Śiva, Dakṣa addresses the god simply as Tapas.<sup>84</sup> The god himself practised severe austerities in the mansion of Devī (*devyālaye*), on the Umā-tunga standing on one foot for a whole heavenly yuga without taking any food.<sup>85</sup> He did the same by the side of (the river) Kauśiki by placing his one foot on the *muṇḍa-prṣṭha* for many yugas of gods.<sup>86</sup> Rudra practised severe penance on Sapta-Godāvara in the Gokarna-tapovana.<sup>87</sup> In the various stotras of Śiva he is often addressed as *Yatin*, *ūrdhvaretas*,<sup>88</sup> *tapo-nitya*,<sup>89</sup> etc. The explanation of the name Sthānu given above should be noted in this connection. The Devas and Dānavas practised severe austerities as a result of which Śiva created the Pāśupatavratā which enables one to be free from the *Paśu-pāśas*.<sup>90</sup> Śukra Kāvya who desired a mantra from lord Mahādeva to bring about the defeat of the Devas at the hands of the Asuras asked that god as to what he ought to do. Śiva advised him to practise a vrata by concentrating on him as a *brahmacārin* for a thousand years. Kāvya had already advised the Asuras to practise penance till the time he secured the necessary mantras from Mahādeva, and now he himself proceeded to practise austerities as advised by Śiva.<sup>91</sup> Umā is said to have practised penance on the southern side of the Himavat mountain.<sup>92</sup> Aparṇā practised austerities without having even leaves of trees for food, while Ekaparnā had only one leaf and Ekapāṭalā only fruits and flowers of Pāṭalā trees as food.<sup>93</sup> The four

77. Cf. *Mahādeva saṅgah* 41. 1-8. 78. Cf. 30. 311. 79. Cf. 40. 26.

80. Cf. Chapt. 23. 81. Cf. 23. 95-7. 82. Cf. 23. 66-7. 83. Cf. 24. 65-6.

84. Cf. 30. 256; also 24. 115. 85. Cf. 77. 81. 86. Cf. 77. 102.

87. Cf. 77. 20. 88. Cf. 97. 162 ff. 89. Cf. 30. 224.

90. Cf. *paśu-pāśa-utkṛāṇa* 30. 293-5. 91. Cf. 97. 105 ff. 92. Cf. 41. 31.

93. Aparṇā, Ekaparnā and Ekapāṭalā are merely the other names of Durgā. Cf. 72. 7-11.

sons of Śiva in his different future avatāras are also credited with having performed tapas. One of such sons in the fourteenth avatāra will have a name *Ugra-tapas*.<sup>94</sup> They are also at times mentioned as *Ūrdhva-retasaḥ*.<sup>95</sup> King Bhagīratha practised severe penance and pleased Śiva for the sake of the river Gaṅgā.<sup>96</sup> All the twice-borns who practise tapas become free from rajas and tamas and having abandoned the human form merge into the god-head of Śiva.<sup>97</sup> They are similarly advised to please the god through penance and obtain high merits.

The stomach of Śiva is the home of *siddha-yogas*.<sup>98</sup> There is a lengthy chapter (23) on *Māheśvarāvatāra-yoga* in which are detailed the different future avatāras of Śiva. In each of these avatāras, Śiva "will have" four sons (or disciples) who are often mentioned either as *yogātmānaḥ* or are connected with yoga. After fulfilling their mission by practising yoga they "will" achieve the highest goal, viz., Rudra-loka. They are often said to have achieved the *Māheśvara-yoga* before their entry into the Rudra-loka or before they return to the presence of Śiva.<sup>99</sup> We are also told about the Kumārakas issuing from Kumāra (i. e. Maheśvara) in the various Kalpas. They too preach the gospel either of dharma or yoga and again merge into Śiva.<sup>100</sup> Śiva practised yoga on this earth in the Haimaka-vana.<sup>101</sup> Whenever a kalpa comes to a close, Rudra destroys the world through his *yoga-māyā*.<sup>102</sup> Śiva pervades everything because of his yoga.<sup>103</sup> Maheśvara goaded the *pradhāna-puruṣa* to action through his yoga and then entered the Egg.<sup>104</sup> Śiva says to Brahmā that he and Viṣṇu "will be" stunned at the power of Maheśvara's yoga.<sup>105</sup> Śiva's yoga is the cause which led to the origin of the lotus whence arose Brahmā who created the world.<sup>106</sup> There is also a reference to *tatva-yoga*.<sup>107</sup> Mahādeva created this universe by resorting to yoga.<sup>108</sup> A yogin is said to be elevated to the Rudra-loka after transcending the prakṛti.<sup>109</sup> Śiva achieved Vāmadevatva due to his *vāmatva-yoga*.<sup>110</sup> Śiva tells Dakṣa that he created the Pāśupata-vrata in support of Yoga. Sāṃkhya, the Vedas, etc.<sup>111</sup> "Lord of Yoga" is a very common attribute of Śiva in the Purāṇa.

Every Yogin is advised to know the Maheśvara of six *aṅgas* and also the seven *sūkṣmas*, to achieve final beatitude.<sup>112</sup> *Prāṇāyāma*, *dhyāna*, *pratyāhāra*, *dhāraṇā* and *smaraṇa* are the five dharmas enjoined by Rudra himself about the Pāśupata yoga.<sup>113</sup>

94. Cf. 23. 163-4. 95. Cf. 23. 1'9-61. 23. 169-70. 96. Cf. 47. 36.

97. Cf. 23. 95-6.

98. Cf. *sarveṣām siddha-yogānām adhiṣṭhānam tavodaram* 24. 151.

99. Cf. *Śiva-sāṃpiyatā* 23. 140-2; 23. 209-13. 100. Cf. Chapt. 22.

101. Cf. 23. 155-7. 102. Cf. 6. 145. 103. Cf. 24. 39. 104. Cf. 5. 10-12.

105. Cf. 23. 111-3. 106. Cf. 34. 41-4. Kha omits this. 107. Cf. 23. 98-9.

108. Cf. 1. 7. 109. Cf. 12. 38. 110. Cf. 23. 70. 111. Cf. 30. 293-5.

112. Cf. 12. 32. 113. Cf. 10. 70-6.

The Avatāras of Śiva: The following table gives the necessary details regarding the 'future' avatāras of Śiva and his sons (or disciples).<sup>114</sup>

Name of the Avatāra	Names of his sons or disciples
1. Śveta	Śveta, Śikha, <sup>115</sup> Śvetāśva, Śvetalohita.
2. Sūtāra	Dundubhi, Śatarūpa, <sup>116</sup> R̥cika, Ketumat.
3. Damana <sup>117</sup>	Viśoka, Vikeśa, Viśāpa, Śāpanāśana.
4. Suhotrin	Sumukha, Durmukha, Durdama, <sup>118</sup> Duratikrama.
5. Kaṅka	Sana, Sanandana, R̥tu, <sup>119</sup> Sanatkumāra.
6. Lokākṣi	Sudhāman, Viraja, Śaṅkhapādrava (?).
7. Jaigīsavya	Sārasvata, Sumedha, <sup>120</sup> Vasuvāha, Suvāhana
8. Vasistha	Kapila, Āsuri, Pañcaśikha, Vāgvali. <sup>121</sup>
9. R̥ṣabha	Parāśara, Gārgya, Bhārgava, Aṅgīras
10. Tridhāman	Balavandhu, Nirā(ra)mitra, Ketuśṛṅga, Tapodhana (?).
11. Ugras (?)	Lambodara, Lamba, Lambākṣa, Lambakeśaka.
12. Atri	Sarvajña, Samabuddhi, Sādhyā, Sarva.
13. Vālī <sup>122</sup>	Sudhāman, Kaśyapa, Vasistha, Virājas.
14. Gautama	Atri, Ugratapas, Śrāvana, Sravistha(śtha)ka. <sup>123</sup>
15. Vedaśiras	Kuṇi, Kuṇibāhu, Kuśārīra, Kuṇetraka.
16. Gokarna	Kāśyapa, <sup>124</sup> Uśanas, Cyavana, Brhaspati.
17. Guhāvāsin <sup>125</sup>	Utathya, Vāmadeva, Mahākāla, Mahālaya.
18. Śikhandin	Vācasravas, R̥tti(cī)ka, Śāvāsa, <sup>126</sup> Drdhavrata (?).
19. Jatāmālin	Hiranyanāman, Kauśilya, Kāksīva, <sup>127</sup> Kuthumi.
20. Attahāsa	Sumantu, Barbari, Subandhu, Kuśikandhara
21. Dārūka	Plakṣa, Dāksāyani, <sup>128</sup> Ketumālin, Vaka. <sup>129</sup>
22. Lāṅgalin	Tulyārcis, Madhupīṅgākṣa, Śvetaketu (?). <sup>130</sup>
23. Śveta (2nd)	Uśija, <sup>131</sup> Vṛhadukthya, <sup>132</sup> Devala, Kavi.
24. Śūlin	Śālīhotra, Agniveśya, Yuvanāśva, Saradvasu.
25. Daṇḍin	Chagala, Kumbhakarsāśya, <sup>133</sup> Kumbha, Pravāhuka.
26. Sahiṣṇu	Ulūka, Vaidyuta, Śarvaka, <sup>134</sup> Āśvalāyana.
27. Somaśarman	Akṣapāda, Kanāda, Ulūka, Vatsa.
28. Nakulin <sup>135</sup>	Kuṣika, Gārgya, Mitraka, Rusta.

The sons (or disciples) are often mentioned as being Brahmins learned in the Vedas. The common description about them is that they practise austerities and after having achieved the Māheśvara yoga repair to the Rudraloka. 'Of the last incarnation of Śiva (Nakulin) it is stated

114. Cf. 23, 115 ff. 115. Kha, Na Śveta 116 Kha, Ga and Na Śatarūpa.  
 117. Gha : Madana. 118. Na Durdama 119. Kha and Ga Kratu.  
 120. Kha : Sumedhas. 121. Ga omits these names 122. Gha Vālī.  
 123. Kha, Ga and Na Śraviṣṭa(śtha)ka. 124. Ka Kaśyapa  
 125. Ga and Na Guhyavāsin 126. Kha, Ga, Gha and Na Vāśvāsa.  
 127. Na Kāksīva 128. Na Dālbhāyani. 129. Kha and Na Naka.  
 130. Gha : Citraketu 131. Na Auija. 132. Kha, Ga Vṛhadukthi.  
 133. Kha, Ga, Gha and Na Kumbhākarna 134. Ka : Sarvaka.  
 135. Ga, Gha and Na Lakulin.

that Śiva "will be" entering a dead body lying uncared for in a cremation ground through the power of his *yoga-māyā* for the sake of the Brahmins; he "will" then be a brahmacārin.<sup>137</sup> This incarnation of Śiva will take place in the *siddhakṣetra* named Kāyārohaṇa.<sup>138</sup>

Śiva and Liṅga : The Purāṇa has one chapter (55) entirely devoted to the origin of Liṅga. It runs thus :

“ Viṣṇu had vanquished Bali and was congratulated by gods and sages upon this act. But Viṣṇu attributed this success to the greatness of Śiva but for whose favour he would not have achieved *siddhatva* in former days.<sup>139</sup> Viṣṇu then narrates a tale with regard to this :

“In former times, I had absorbed all the three worlds. Everywhere there was darkness and with all the creatures in my bowels I slept. After some time, I happened to see something shining at a distance which was none else than the person of Brahmā. Brahmā came towards me and after asserting that he is the self-born (*svayambhū*) and the creator of the world he questioned me as to who I was. I replied to him that I (too) was the creator and destroyer of the world. While we were thus engaged in a wordy warfare about our part in the creation we saw, at a distance, a blazing flame which appeared to envelop the whole world above and below. We were bewildered at this glaring sight and hastened towards it, and lo ! we saw, in the midst of flames, a liṅga, terrible in appearance.<sup>140</sup> We felt a curiosity about its magnitude and Brahmā said to me, “Let us try to trace out its limits. I am going towards its upper extremity.” He proceeded to do likewise and I went towards the bottom. But all our exploration was in vain. We were overtaken by *māyā* and could not find out our way. I was really very much afraid. We then offered prayers to Maheśvara who appeared before us to relieve us of our anxieties.”

In the first chapter of contents an allusion is made to this meritorious story.<sup>141</sup> Stray references to liṅga also occur. Viṣṇu tells Brahmā : “Formerly (Śiva ?) inserted the liṅga and your seed in me (i.e. the yoni) which in course of time developed into the golden egg”.<sup>142</sup> ‘Śiva is elsewhere called the subtle liṅga.<sup>143</sup> He is also called the lord of the kṣetra (*kṣetrādhipati*), bījīn and ūrdhvamedhira.<sup>144</sup>

136. For places where these avatāras 'will be' taking place see Nos. 385, 386, 387, 560A, 814, 995, 1155 in App.

137. Khe and Ghe omit these details. 138. Cf. 30 219-24.

139. Cf. *tasya eva prasāda ādau siddhatvam āgatam* 55 10.

140. Cf. *jvālā-mālāyatam nyastam sarva-bhūta-bhāyomkaram* 55. 22.

141. Cf. 1. 105

142. Cf. *purā liṅgam bharadbijam prathamam tv ādisargikam mayi yonau samāyuktam tad-bijam kālāparayāt hiraṇmayam apārcm tad yonyām aṇḍam ajāyeta* 24. 72-3.

143. Cf. 97 200-202. 144. Cf. 24. 91-2; also 24. 55-60.

**Skanda-Kārtikeya :** In the chapters on Śrāddha we find a story narrated about the birth of this god. Indra had fears about the issue arising out of the union of Śiva with Rudrāṇī.<sup>145</sup> He commissioned Agni to disturb them in their intercourse. Agni did his duty well and the semen of Śiva fell on the earth. Umā, with her passions thus ungratified, angrily cursed Agni to bear the *garbha* himself. After carrying the *garbha* for many years Agni requested the river Gaṅgā to bear it for him. Gaṅgā, though with great hesitation, agreed to do so and, in course of time, delivered it on the Śaravana. Thus was born Kumāra, the child conjointly of Rudra, Agni and Gaṅgā. The wives of the seven sages (excluding Arundhatī) came to see the child as if they were its mothers.<sup>146</sup> Each of them in turn saw the child and that is why Kumāra has six faces. Since he vanquished the Dānavas, he is called Skanda<sup>147</sup> and since the Krttikās nursed him, he is called Kārtikeya. Various gods then brought him presents mostly in the form of animals. Skanda had many sports on the Krauñca-giri where he killed Tārakāsura. This son of Agni was later consecrated as the Commander-in-Chief of the gods. He is surrounded by the *Mātr̥s* and the *ganas* of Vināyikas and Bhūtas.<sup>148</sup>

Skanda's birth in Śaravana is alluded to in the geographical chapters. It was on the Krauñcaśaila that lions were yoked to the chariot of Kārtikeya and Guha (i.e. Skanda) was consecrated to the generalship of the gods.<sup>149</sup>

In the description of the city of Śiva (Śivapura) we find Skanda mentioned as Śikhivāhana (i.e. having peacock as his vehicle) with Śākha, Viśākha and others as his followers.<sup>150</sup> The sage Vasistha, who professes to be his devotee, also calls the god as *Śikhivāhana* and *Śakti-hasta* (i.e. having Śakti as his weapon) in the course of his prayer.<sup>151</sup>

Skanda also figures as a leader of the Nairṛta Rākṣasas who were in the habit of kidnapping children.<sup>152</sup> The Vaināyakas and others are the classes of *Bhūmi-Rākṣasakas*. They wander unseen on the earth in various forms; there are eight classes of them, viz., Bhadrakas, Nikaras, Pūtanās with Mātr̥s (amongst them?), etc. They have their eyes always on children.<sup>153</sup> They have Skandagraha in their train.<sup>154</sup> The Kaumāras amongst them have a particular tendency to kidnap children. Thus there are numerous *ganas* of Skandagrahas, Loka-Vināyakas, etc.<sup>155</sup>

145. Cf. *tābhyām mathunasaktiābhyām apatyodbhava-bhīruna Indrena.*

146. Cf. *svakābhīr eva mātṛbhīh.*

147. Cf. *Skanditā Dānavaganās tasmāt skandah pratāpavān.* 148. Cf. 72. 21 ff.

149. No 469 App. 150. Cf 101. 279-81. 151. Cf. 54. 22-6.

152. Cf. *Nairṛtā nāmatah smṛtā grahās te rākṣasāḥ sarve bālānām tu viśeṣatah* 84. 13-4.

153. Cf. *bālānām mānuṣe loke grahāḥ* 154. *Skanda-grohādoyai caiva.*

155. Cf. *Kaumāras te tu vijñeयā bālānām graharṛtṭayoh skandē graharṛṣeṣānām .. ye ca loka-vināyakaḥ.* They appear to have some connection with the Guhyakas 69. 184-94.



**Gaṇeśa :** Sudyumna is said to have been turned into a female and achieved the status of *gāṇapatya* through the favour of Mahādeva.<sup>157</sup> A Śūdra devotee of Śiva is promised the same status of *Gāṇapatya* if he is not a drunkard.<sup>158</sup>

## II. VAIṢṆAVISM AND THE OTHER SECTS

**Vaiṣṇavism :** Viṣṇu as the supreme god does not figure much in the Purāṇa. The only important account about him is the story of his avatāras brought into the genealogical portions of the Purāṇa in connection with the 'history' of Vāsudeva Kṛṣṇa. But here too we find the greatness of Śiva pervading the story. The sages asked Sūta as to who were Vasudeva, Devakī, Nandagopa, etc., amongst whom the god Viṣṇu was born and the latter elucidates the point by narrating the story of Bhṛgu's curse to Viṣṇu for killing his wife as the result of which Viṣṇu was born seven times on the earth.

Though Śiva is the supreme god of the Purāṇa, we find Viṣṇu too as a great god next to him. Nārāyaṇa creates the universe and pervades it, though he himself is created by Mahēśvara.<sup>159</sup> He is the best amongst the Suras<sup>160</sup> and is the "consecrated lord" of the Ādityas and Sādhya.<sup>161</sup> All the gods are pervaded by Viṣṇu (*Viṣṇumayāḥ*) and there is no goal better than the world of Viṣṇu.<sup>162</sup> This is what the gods sing. But still Hari adores Bhava.<sup>163</sup> When the period of destruction arrives, he absorbs the three worlds and goes to sleep. References to Viṣṇu reclining on his ocean-bed occur frequently<sup>164</sup> and there he is described as holding the *śankha*, *cakra* and *gadā* in his hands,<sup>165</sup> as having eight arms and wearing the *kiriṭa*.<sup>166</sup> The mark of *cakra* on the feet and of *śankha* on the palm of the hands are some of the indications of a *cakravartin* in the Tretā age.<sup>167</sup> This *cakravartin* is animated by the spirit of Viṣṇu. Caṇḍa, the lord of Nāgas, was also marked with the discus of Viṣṇu.<sup>168</sup>

In the accounts of creation, Viṣṇu often figures with Brahmā and is sometimes identified with him. Brahmā is called Nārāyaṇa many times and the name Nārāyaṇa is explained in that connection.<sup>169</sup> When Viṣṇu asks Brahmā as to who he is, Brahmā answers that he is known as Nārāyaṇa, the creator of the world.<sup>170</sup> In the act of creation Brahmā himself assumes the form of a boar.<sup>171</sup>

156. For details of the story of the destruction of the city of Vārāṇasī through a curse of Gaṇeśa Kṣemaka Cf. No. 143 App.

157. 85. 28      158. 101. 351-5

159. Cf. 1. 204      160. Cf. 69. 43.      161. Cf. 70. 5-6.

162. Cf. *na sa Viṣṇu-samā hācid gatiṛanyā vidhiyate.*      163. Cf. 21. 6-7.

164. Cf. 1. 56; 24. 10 ff.; 55. 12, etc.      165. Cf. 55. 12; 24. 9.

166. Cf. 24. 9-10.      167. Cf. 57. 79.      168. *Viṣṇucakrāṇḍhita-cihna* Cf. 41. 73.

169. Cf. 6. 3; 3. 38; 7. 63-5; 7. 69-71.      170. Cf. 24. 21.

171. *Vārāha rūpa* Cf. 6. 10 ff.

The avatāras of Viṣṇu, referred to in the Purāṇa, are as follows :

Name of the avatāra	Details about the avatāra
1. Nārāyaṇa	He started the Institution of Sacrifice.
2. Narasimha	He killed Hiranyakaśipu.
3. Vāmana	As a Brahmin he begged of Vairocana Bali the portion of earth traversed by his "three steps" and vanquished Bali.
4. Dattātreyā	Mārkaṇḍeya was his promoter ( <i>puruṣa</i> ).
5. Māmdhātā	He was a cakra-vartin and had <sup>173</sup> a promoter in Utathya. <sup>174</sup>
6. Jāmadagnya	He was the annihilator of all the Kṣatriyas and had Viśvāmitra as his promoter. <sup>175</sup>
7. Rāma	He was the son of Daśaratha with Vasiṣṭha as his promoter. He was born specially for the purpose of killing Rāvaṇa.
8. Vedavyāsa	He was the son of Parāśara with Jātukarṇa as his promoter.
9. Kṛṣṇa	Son of Vasudeva by Devakī. Brahmargārgya (?) was his promoter. <sup>176</sup> Viṣṇu was born in the family of the Vṛṣṇis in order to promulgate dharma. He killed Karmāsa, Śālva, Pūtana, Keśin, Nāga Kuvala-yāpida, etc., who were really Daityas in different garbs. Here Sāndīpani is mentioned as his promoter.
10. Kalki	When this age will come to a close, Viṣṇuśāsa Kalki, belonging to the Parāśara (gotra?) will be born with Yājñavalkya as his promoter. <sup>177</sup>

The first three avatāras are called *divya-sambhūti* (i.e. incarnations in heaven) and the rest are the incarnations amongst men.<sup>178</sup>

Some of the above avatāras are mentioned elsewhere in the text. Hiranyakaśipu, the lord of Daityas, was killed by Narasimha Viṣṇu.<sup>179</sup> With reference to Vāmana the name of Viṣṇu is explained thus : "*tasmāt sa vai smṛto Viṣṇur viśeṣa dhātōḥ praveśanāt*."<sup>180</sup> The knowers of Purāṇa say that Atri's son Dattātreyā had the *corpus* of Viṣṇu.<sup>181</sup> Kārtavīrya Arjuna propitiated Datta, son of Atri, through practice of severe austerities and the latter granted him four boons.<sup>182</sup> Vyāsa, as an *aṁśa* (i.e. portion) of Viṣṇu, is also mentioned at some places.<sup>183</sup> We have also a narration about the future exploits of Kalki.<sup>184</sup>

172. Cf. 98. 70 ff. ; also 1. 148-50.

174. Gha does not mention him.

176. Gha and Nā omit this.

178. Cf. 98. 88.

182. Cf. 94. 10-15.

173. According to Nā only.

175. Gha omits his name.

177. For details see No. 842 App.

180. Cf. 66. 136.

183. Cf. 60. 11-2 ; 23. 217-8.

184. Cf. 99. 396.

The *Vārāhaavatāra* of Viṣṇu is not included in the above list but the following references indicate that it was probably recognised as an avatāra. The people of Varāha-dvīpa worshipped Viṣṇu in his form of Varāha.<sup>185</sup> Pramiti, as an amśa of Mādhava, is also mentioned<sup>186</sup> but he is not included in the above list because he was an av. tāra (?) of Viṣṇu in the Svāyambhuva Manvantara. The above list apparently refers to the avatāras of Viṣṇu in the Vaivasvata manvantara.<sup>187</sup>

Viṣṇu as a Sectarian God: There are some indications in the Purāṇa about Viṣṇu as a sectarian god. The Brahmins, Kṣatriyas and Vaiśyas of the city of Campāvati were worshippers of Viṣṇu.<sup>188</sup> Worship of Datta<sup>189</sup> by Kārtavīrya Arjuna has already been noted above. In the story of Dakṣa-sacrifice we find Dakṣa offering oblations to Viṣṇu as his favourite deity. There is also a statement<sup>190</sup> that Nārāyaṇa is the sole resort for emancipation.

We have a reference to Saṁkarsana, Vāsudeva, Pradyumna, Sāmba and Aniruddha as the five great men of his family (*vaṁśa-vīrah*). This reference occurs in the context of the narration of the avatāras of Viṣṇu and is probably suggestive of the theology of the Bhāgavata sect.<sup>191</sup>

The Conception of the Triad: In the accounts of creation Brahmā is called both Nārāyaṇa and Maheśvara.<sup>192</sup> Lord Nārāyaṇa divides himself into three and performs the functions of creation, preservation and destruction.<sup>193</sup> In the first chapter which gives the contents of the Purāṇas, we find a provision made for the elucidation of the unity and diversity of the three gods.<sup>194</sup> We have already referred to the exposition made by Viṣṇu to Brahmā as to how Śiva is the generator (*bijin*), he himself the field of creation (*yonī*) and Brahmā the germ (*bijam*). Brahmā is the *Rajas*, Agni (i.e. Rudra) the *Tamas* and Viṣṇu the *Sattva*.<sup>195</sup> In the prayer to Śiva the god is also addressed as Viṣṇu and Brahmā.<sup>196</sup> The abode of Nārāyaṇa is to the east, of Śiva to the west and of Brahmā in the middle. These are the principal gods (*deva-mukhyāḥ*).<sup>197</sup> It is said that in the Puṣkaradvīpa Brahmā wields the daṇḍa with Śiva and Viṣṇu<sup>198</sup> and in the śrāddha chapters we find a recommendation that the Brahmin worshippers of Viṣṇu, Śiva and Brahmā should be invited on that occasion.<sup>199</sup>

185. Cf. 48. 40; also 97. 16; 97. 74. 186. Cf. 58. 85. 187. Cf. 98. 71,

188. *Viṣṇupurāṇanāḥ* Cf. 99. 105-7. 189. Gha and Na omit this.

190. It occurs only in Kha. 191 Cf. 97. 1-2. 192 Cf. 5. 38-42.

193. Cf. *Nārāyaṇah ... tridhā vibhajya svātmānam . ...srjate grasate caiva vikṣate ca vibhīti tu yat* 5. 38-9.

194. Cf. *ata ūrdhvaṁ brahmanā ca viṣṇo caiva bhavasya ca ekatvaṁ ca prthaktvaṁ ca.....kīrtiyate* : 1. 132.

195. Cf. 5. 15-6. 196. Cf. 54. 68-76; 54. 98 etc. 197. Cf. 41. 63.

198. Cf. 49. 140. 199. Cf. 82. 57-9. Gha omits this.

**The Cult of the Sun-god :** In the description of the Vāyupura there appears an allusion to the setting up of (an image of ?) Vāḍaditya by the god Vāyu. This Vāḍaditya is none else but the Sun-god or Sūrya. The people of the place were called Vāḍavas whose customs, it is stated, were many and varied.<sup>200</sup> Yājñavalkya and his pupils had become inflicted with the sin of *Brahma-hatyā*. On the advice of Brahmā they worshipped the god Vālukesvara of twelve beams (*dvādaśārka*, i.e. the Sun-god) in the city of Vāyupura and had their baths in the tanks at that place and were thus rid of their sins. Then they adored Vāḍava, the lord of the north, and merged themselves into the world of Sūrya (*Sūrya-maṇḍalam*).<sup>201</sup> Of Yājñavalkya it is again stated that he returned what he had learnt about the Vedas to his teacher and concentrated his mind on the Sun-god. As a result of these efforts the god, in the form of a horse, gave a new *samhitā* to Yājñavalkya. This *samhitā* is known by the name Vājasaneya. The name of this Yājñavalkya was probably Brahmarāti.<sup>202</sup> The Rākṣasas named Yātudhānas—who were ten in number—were the followers of Sūrya and wandered with the deity.<sup>203</sup> Bhauvana who appears to be a Daitya, offered a prayer to the Sun-god with the *Rathantara sāman* and was immediately turned into an elephant.<sup>204</sup> In the Kirmśuka forest, the Siddhas pay homage to *Āditya*<sup>205</sup> and we have already had a reference to the story of how Sūrya in the guise of a Brahmin begged of the king Kārtavīrya Arjuna the whole earth for alms. Śakrajit<sup>206</sup> was a friend (i.e. a devotee ?) of the Sun-god<sup>207</sup> who, as a token of his friendship (or devotion ?), presented a jewel to the former called *Syamantaka* which involved Vāsudeva Kṛṣṇa in many incidents.<sup>208</sup>

**Buddhism and Jainism :** In the genealogical narration of the Ikṣvākus, Śākya is mentioned as a son of Samjaya. His son was Śuddhodana.<sup>209</sup> The Vairājas are said to have achieved *ānanda-brahman* and become 'awakened'.<sup>210</sup> Of the conditions obtaining in the Kali age we are told that there is neither happiness nor *nirvāṇa* (emancipation).<sup>211</sup> In a prayer to Śiva by Dakṣa the god is addressed as *buddha*.<sup>212</sup>

In connection with the āśrama of the forest-dweller there is a reference to the five vratas and five upavratas. Such is the ten-fold dharma with regard to them as is enjoined by Svayambhu.<sup>213</sup> In con-

200. Cf. No. 1422 App. 201. Cf. No. 1423 App.

202. Ka, Brahmarāti Cf. 61 20-2

203. Cf. *Sūryasya anucārā hyete saha tena bhramanti ca* 69. 128.

204. Gha omits the name Bhauvana ; Cf. 69. 209-10. 205. Cf. 38. 31-2.

206. Gha Satrājīt. 207. Cf. *Śakrajitah Sūryaḥ sakḥā* 208. Cf. 96. 20 ff.

209. Cf. 99. 288-9. 210. Cf. *buddhāvasthā* : 101. 81-5.

211. Cf. *na sukhaṁ nāpi nirvāṇam tasmā bhavati vai yuge* 32. 20.

212. Cf. *namaḥ śuddhāya buddhāya* 30. 216 ; cf. also 97. 172.

213. Cf. *bhikṣor vratāni pañcātra pañcāvopavratāni ca daśa-lakṣaṇa hyeṣa dharmah proktaḥ Svayambhuvā*.

tinuation of the same occurs an explanation of the *Parivraja-dharma*. The stanza which explains this dharma is in a different metre and may probably be a quotation. The dharma enjoins the following things : *dhyāna, samādhi, bhikṣya, mauna and vimukti*.<sup>214</sup> This was the state of things in the Tretā age.<sup>215</sup> At another place there is a reference that the *bhikṣus* should observe *ahimsā*.<sup>216</sup>

A reference to *bhikṣus* and *yatis* has already been made in connection with *mūnis*. With reference to *śrāddha* it is enjoined that in the absence of *dhyāni-bhikṣus* (two?) *brahmacārins* may be fed on the occasion.<sup>217</sup> This shows that the *bhikṣus* were more deserving of respect than the *brahmacārins*. It is not certain whether by these *bhikṣus* we should understand the monks of either the Buddhist or the Jaina faith. It is more in the fitness of things if we take them to be the *Saivite yogins*.

The manner in which the *Vṛśalas*, *Yatis* and *Pāṣaṇḍas* are described in the sketch of the state of things at the end of the Kali age may make us rightly infer that they belonged to some hostile faith such as that of the Jains or the Buddhists.<sup>218</sup> Condemnatory remarks about the *Nirgranthas* occur in the same context. In connection with the rules regarding *śrāddha*, the *Nagnas* (i.e. naked ones) and others are mentioned as taboo and here we find a digression describing the *Nagnas*. The *Nagnas*, it is stated, have forsaken the *Vedas* and follow other ways for their emancipation (*mokṣa*). They consider the *āśramas* and the *Vedas* as useless, and (thus) do not comprehend the ultimate reality. Formerly, there took place a war between gods and demons in which the latter were defeated. (After this?) the *Brahmins*, *Kṣatriyas*, *Vaiśyas* and *Vṛśalas*<sup>219</sup> were spoiled by the *Pāṣaṇḍas*. Here occurs a reference to *Nirgranthas*, *Karpaṭas*,<sup>220</sup> but the text here is very confusing. These *Nagnas* do not follow dharma and go by wrong ways.<sup>221</sup> The irreligious *Ājivas*, so called by the *Suras*, also figure in the *Purāṇa* in its accounts of the *Pisācas*,<sup>222</sup> who are said to be haunting the *Caityavṛkṣas*.<sup>223</sup>

214 Cf. *Dhyānam samādhir manasendriyānām savāgarair bhikṣyam athopagamya maunaṁ paritropasitir vimuktir parivraja dharmaṁ idaṁ vadanti*

215. Cf. 8. 184-8. 216. Cf. *bhikṣūnām ahimsā paramārikhitā* 16. 18.

217. Cf. 71, 71-2. 218. Cf. Nos. 95-7, 1480 in App.

219. Gha. *Vṛśabhas*; Ka reads it differently. 20. According to Ka, *Sākyas*.

221. Cf. 78, 24-33. 222 For details, see No. 15 App. 223. Cf. 69. 284.

## CHAPTER V

### YUGAS AND THE SYSTEM OF CHRONOLOGY

#### I. KALPAS

**Of Kalpas in General :** The first chapter dealing with the summary of contents provides for the narration of Kalpas.<sup>1</sup> Immediately after enumerating the five characteristics of a Purāṇa, the Sūta refers to Kalpa, that being involved in the topic of immediate narration.<sup>2</sup> A *Kalpa* is so called because Brahmā ordained it.<sup>3</sup> The sages request the god Vāyu to unfold to them the wonder and mystery about the Kalpas.<sup>4</sup>

**Kalpa closely Connected with Cosmology :** In the beginning of each Kalpa Viśvakarmā fashions the earth with its seas, mountains and islands.<sup>5</sup> In every Kalpa lord Mahādeva creates the universe.<sup>6</sup> When a Kalpa comes to a close, the time for the great fire, which causes the periodical destruction, arrives.<sup>7</sup> Creation and destruction of former Kalpas are occasionally mentioned.<sup>8</sup> Brahmā assumed different forms to lift up the earth from out of the waters "as in the former Kalpas".<sup>9</sup>

**Duration of a Kalpa :** The Kalpa immediately preceding the present Kalpa passed away at the end of a thousand *caturyugas* together with its days and *manvantaras*.<sup>10</sup> A half Kalpa is said to cover a period of 2862 *koṭis* and 70 *niyutas* (of years?).<sup>11</sup> Other calculations are also given but they are complicated ; and again it is not necessary to work them out here.<sup>12</sup> There is, however, a statement that a thousand Kalpas make a year of Brahmā and that one thousand such years make his Yuga.<sup>13</sup>

**Number and Names of Kalpas :** The following Kalpas are mentioned in their order : Bhava, Bhuva, Tapas, Bhava (?), Rambha, Ṛtukalpa, Kṛatu, Vahni, Havyavāhana, Sāvitra, Bhuva (?), Uśika, Kuśika, Gandharva, Ṛsabha, Śaḍja,<sup>14</sup> Mārjāliya, Madhyama, Vairājaka, Niṣāda, Pañcama, Meghavāhana, Cintaka, Ākūti, Viṣṇāti, Manas, Bhāva and Bṛhat.<sup>15</sup> But in the next chapter<sup>16</sup> the list is further continued : Śveta-lohita, Rakta Pītavāsas,<sup>17</sup> Sita and Viśvarūpa. Thus the list includes 3. Kalpas. The Vārāha Kalpa, which is often mentioned elsewhere,<sup>18</sup> is not included in the above list. Again Padmakalpa is mentioned as the seventh Kalpa but that too is not found in the list. There is one statement which mentions the number of Kalpas as being ten.<sup>19</sup>

1. Cf. 1. 53-5 ; 1. 62 ; 1. 65 ; 1. 168. 2. Cf. 4. 10-13.

3. Cf. *Kalpadyāmśa vai Brahmā tasmāt kalpo nirucyate* ; Gha has *Kāla* for *Kalpa* ; 7. 77. 4. Cf. 22. 1. 5. Cf. 6. 33. 6. Cf. 7. 78. 7. Cf. 7. 15.

8. Cf. 6. 35 ; 7. 68-9 etc. 9. Cf. 8. 6 ; 6. 8-9. 10. Cf. 7. 14.

11. Cf. 21. 13-4. 12. Cf. 21. 15 ff. 13. Cf. 22. 4-5.

14. *Ṭha Ga* and *Na* ; *Ṣaḍja*. 15. Cf. 21. 26 ff. 16. Cf. 22. 9 ff.

17. *Kha, Ga, Gha* and *Na* ; *Pītavāsa*. 18. Cf. 7. 5 ; 5. 49-50 ; 21. 11-2.

19. Cf. 7. 30.

## II. MANVANTARAS

Of Manvantaras in General : The first chapter mentions the Manvantaras as a topic for narration in the Purāṇas.<sup>20</sup> In fact, description of Manvantaras is one of the five characteristics of a Purāṇa as such.<sup>21</sup> Every Manvantara has a Manu who is its lord<sup>22</sup> and it appears that a particular Manvantara bears the same name as that of the Manu who presides over it. Thus, in the Vaivasvata Manvantara, Vaivasvata was the "lord of men".<sup>23</sup> Every Manvantara, again, has its own set of Devas<sup>24</sup> and of the seven sages<sup>25</sup> and probably its own Indra also.<sup>26</sup> Viṣṇu too had different names in different Manvantaras.<sup>27</sup>

Duration of a Manvantara : Seventy-one caturyugas make a Manvantara.<sup>28</sup> There are seventy-one *padas* (steps) of Kāla. When it moves to cover one pada there is an end of one Yuga and seventy-one such movements bring the Manvantara to a close.<sup>29</sup>

Number of Manvantaras : The number of Manvantaras is fourteen.<sup>30</sup> There are fourteen Manus (i.e. Manvantaras also) in the Vārāha Kalpa.<sup>31</sup> From the fourteen *Svaras* arose the fourteen Manus who were the lords of the celestial Manvantaras.<sup>32</sup> Seven Manvantaras have passed already and seven more are still to pass.<sup>33</sup> The names of the Manvantaras that have passed are : Svāyambhuva, Svārociṣa, Auttama, Cāriṣṇava,<sup>34</sup> Tāmasa, Cākṣuṣa and Vaivasvata, the last being the current Manvantara.<sup>35</sup> It is to Vaivasvata Manu that the royal genealogies owe their origin.<sup>36</sup> We have also a reference to Sāvārṇa Manu who is the same as Vaivasvata Manu.<sup>37</sup>

Excepting the Vaivasvata, the Svāyambhuva and the Cākṣuṣa Manvantaras have received more attention in the Purāṇa. It was in the Svāyambhuva, the first of the Manvantaras,<sup>38</sup> that the great sages questioned Indra regarding the utility of killing animals in sacrifices.<sup>39</sup> The Sūta narrates what Brahmā said to Manu in regard to the divisions of the Veda in the Dvāpara of the Svāyambhuva Manvantara.<sup>40</sup> The Svāyambhuva Manu had ten grandsons<sup>41</sup> who occupied this whole earth of the seven dvīpas. These ten sons or grandsons are also referred to elsewhere.<sup>42</sup> In the Cākṣuṣa which was the sixth of the Manvantaras immediately preceding the present Manvantara, the gods were called Sādhyas<sup>43</sup> whose leader was Nārāyaṇa.<sup>44</sup> The importance of this

20. Cf. 1. 53 ; 1. 120-1. 21. Cf. 4. 10-11. 22. Cf. 26. 30 ; 63. 12-9 ; 73. 49.  
 23. Cf. 70. 18. 24. Cf. 66. 64-5. 25. Cf. 100. 10 ff. 26. Cf. 64. 6.  
 27. Cf. 66. 128-35. 28. Cf. 57. 33 ; 10. 12. 29. Cf. 32. 31-2.  
 30. Cf. 7. 17-21 ; 45. 69-70. 31. Cf. 5. 50. 32. Cf. 26. 30.  
 33. Cf. 100. 10 ff. 34. At one place we have *Raiivata* instead : cf. 62. 3.  
 35. Cf. 66. 128-35 ; 63. 12-9 ; cf. also 85. 2. 36. Cf. 85. 1 ff.  
 37. Cf. 100. 9 ; 84. 38 ff. 38. Cf. 30. 5 ; 21. 22-3 ; 63. 12-9 ; 66. 128.  
 39. Cf. 57. 119. 40. Cf. 60. 1-2. 41. According to Gha : sons : Cf. 33. 4.  
 42. Cf. 31. 17-8. 43. Cf. 66. 8-10. 44. Cf. 70. 61 66. 133-4 ; 70. 1.

Manvantara is brought out by the fact that the story of Pṛthu is narrated with reference to this Manvantara.<sup>45</sup> In the same context it is stated that in the Cākṣuṣa and in the Manvantaras preceding it, the earth was uneven<sup>46</sup> and there were no cities and villages; neither did agriculture, trade, pasture and cattle-breeding exist then. But all these things had their place in the Vaivasvata Manvantara from the time of Vainya.<sup>47</sup> This amounts to a suggestion that the reign of Vainya formed an interregnum between the Cākṣuṣa and the Vaivasvata Manvantaras.

One chapter<sup>48</sup> is entirely devoted to the description of the Vaivasvata Manvantara and the *varṇśa* portion<sup>49</sup> of the Purāṇa begins with the story of Vaivasvata Manu.

### III. THE YUGA SYSTEM OF CHRONOLOGY

Of Yugas in General: As in the case of Kalpas and Manvantaras, we find narration of Yugas also provided for in the first chapter of contents<sup>50</sup> The connection between Manvantaras and Yugas in point of calculations has already been noted above in connection with the duration of a Manvantara.

The concept of time is closely connected with Yugas—a fact which is significant in itself. Kāla appears as a deity identified with Śiva<sup>51</sup> Its four faces are the four Yugas<sup>52</sup> The Yuga is the soul of time<sup>53</sup> and Kāla is known through the Yuga.<sup>54</sup> We have not found such explanations in connection with either the Kalpas or the Manvantaras.

The Yugas are again associated with the concept of dharma, as will be obvious from the description of the four Yugas below. When the Yuga-dharma is not followed god Visnu appears on the earth in the form of an incarnation to put matters aright in point of dharma.<sup>55</sup> He acts according to the ways appropriate to Yugas.<sup>56</sup> Similarly, when the future incarnations of Śiva are mentioned, we find the corresponding Yugas too mentioned. There are six facts about the Yuga of which Yuga-dharma is one.<sup>57</sup>

Methods of Computation of a Yuga: The learned say that a *yuga* is comprised of five years<sup>58</sup> The year (*saṃvatsara*) again is said to be five-souled (*pañcadhātma*) but another view of Madhvādinṛta (i.e. ?) that it is six-fold *ṣaṭka*, is also quoted. This may probably refer to the number of seasons as it appears from the immediate reference to

45. Cf. 62. 18 ff. 46. Cf. *viṣṇu-āśīd varuṇādhārā*. 47. Cf. 62. 110-4.

48. Chapter 64. 49. Chapters 85-99. 50. Cf. 1. 109-13.

51. Cf. *viṣṇu-āśīd deva bhagavān svayaṃ kālāḥ*. 52. Cf. 32. 12-4.

53. Cf. *yugābhīmānī kālātma* : 31. 50. 54. Cf. *Kālas tu yuga saṃjñitāḥ* 32. 6.

55. Cf. *yuga-dharme parāvṛtte kāle ca sithile prabhuḥ kartum dharma-vyavasthānam jāyate mānuṣya-eva* : 97. 65-7.

56. Cf. *yugābhīmānī yāḥ kṛtā* : 97. 30. 57. Cf. 57. 3-4.

\* 58. Cf. *iti etat pañcavarṇam hi yugam proktaṃ manīṣibhiḥ* 31. 49.



rtus ( seasons ).<sup>59</sup> A reference to five divisions of Kāla<sup>60</sup> is also made elsewhere and here Kāla appears to mean Yuga. These five divisions are : (1) Samvatsara, (2) Parivatsara, (3) Idvatsara, (4) Anuvatsara and Vatsara.<sup>61</sup>

There are in all six *prakāras* of Yugas, viz., Yuga, Yugabheda, Yugadharma, Yugasamdhyaśaka, Yugasamdhāna and (Yuga-samkhyā ?)<sup>62</sup> but they have no bearing on the method of computation of Yuga.

Divisions of Time and the Computation of Yuga : A *nimeṣa* forms the lowest unit in the measurement of time. The time required by a *nimeṣa* is equal to that taken in (pronouncing ?) the shortest letter (*akṣara*).<sup>63</sup>

15 Nimeṣas = Kāṣṭhā ; 30 Kāṣṭhās = Kalā ; 30 Kalās = Muhūrta ; 30 Muhūrtas = Day and Night.

The further divisions of time upto the year are taken to be understood.

The four Yugas cover a period of 12000 years in the following manner :—

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. Kṛta-yuga    | —4800 years with Samdhya and Samdhyaśaka.               |
| 2. Tretā-yuga   | —3600     "                     "                     " |
| 3. Dvāpara-yuga | —2400     "                     "                     " |
| 4. Kali-yuga    | —1200     "                     "                     " |

Calculations regarding the 'days', 'years', etc., of the Pitrs, Devas and Saptarṣis are also given but it is unnecessary to give details about them here. There is also a calculation of the 'Kraunca year'.<sup>64</sup>

The divisions of time mentioned elsewhere are as follows :—

- (1) Kāṣṭhā, Kalā, Parvan, Muhūrta, Vipakṣa, Pakṣa, etc.<sup>65</sup>
- (2) Nimeṣa, Kāṣṭhā, Kalā, half-month, month, etc.<sup>66</sup>
- (3) Lava, Kāṣṭhā, Kalā, Muhūrta, day, night, etc.<sup>67</sup>
- (4) Nimeṣa, Kalā, Kāṣṭhā, Muhūrta, day and night.<sup>68</sup>

#### DESCRIPTION OF YUGAS

The Kṛta-yuga : The people lived without malice towards each other and faced no mutual conflicts. There were no houses for them to reside and they resorted to mountains and sea-shores for shelter. Ever gay, they wandered aimlessly. The animal kingdom did not exist nor

59. Cf. 31. 50. 60. Cf. *pañcānām pravṛtṭāntānām kālāvasthām*.

61. Cf. 31. 26-8 ; and 32. 65 where, however, we find it difficult to make out the exact sense ; cf. also 53. 116.

62. Cf. 57. 3-4.

63. Cf. *nimeṣa-kāla-tulyam hi vidyāi laghvakṣaram sa yat* : 57. 6.

64. Cf. 57. 6 B.

65. The reference to *samvatsara* as "lord of Gaṇita-Yoga" should be noted : Cf. 70. 15.

66. Cf. 30. 233. 67. Cf. 8. 20. 68. Cf. 30. 15 omitted in Ks.

the vegetable world. The time was conducive to fulfilment of all desires and the climate was temperate.<sup>69</sup> The people were ever young<sup>70</sup> and did not observe any sacraments.<sup>71</sup> They were all equal in matters of birth, beauty and of various virtues. Things took shape of their own accord.<sup>72</sup> Virtuous or sinful deeds had no place in this Yuga.<sup>73</sup> The institution of the varṇāśrama, and consequently its saṁkaras, did not exist then.<sup>74</sup>

The Tretā-yuga: The coming of the Tretā age was heralded by a rain-fall and there was luxuriant vegetation.<sup>75</sup> The people became used to clothes and ornaments. Thus were they living happily. But after some period, greed (*lobha*) 'again' overtook them and because of their misdeeds (*apacāra*) the plant world failed to supply their needs. The climate appears to have become extreme and it brought upon them many sufferings. Formerly, people were of nomadic habits<sup>76</sup> and had no fixed dwellings; but now, 'again' they raised structures amidst the mountains and along the rivers. It was in this state of things that villages, towns, cities, etc. had their origin and units of measurement of distance were devised to make a suitable town-planning. It appears that there was again a crisis followed by a rainfall. This meant a rich vegetation which enabled the people to sustain themselves. The four varṇas were born and acted up to their respective functions. But "the same evil" again affected the plant world which consequently was unable to support the people. The hungry (*Kṣudhāviṣṭāḥ*) people approached the Creator who then 'milched' the earth and made the vegetation grow again. Brahmā then regulated the functions of the four varṇas. But 'again' the people became subject to delusion and Brahmā having scrutinized all the details of the problem framed clear-cut distinctions about the functions of the four varṇas. The *āśramas* were then set up.<sup>77</sup>

The origin of kingship in this age and the conception of Viṣṇu being represented in the person of a paramount sovereign have already been described. It was in the Tretā age that the *Daṇḍa-nīti* was promulgated<sup>78</sup> and the one Veda became four-fold.<sup>79</sup> Sacrifice, making of gifts, penance and truth constituted dharma in the Tretā age.<sup>80</sup> Thus, the Institution of Sacrifice originated in this age.<sup>81</sup> In the beginning of the Tretā, the seven sages are said to have promulgated the two-fold dharma, viz., *Śrauta* and *Smṛta*.<sup>82</sup>

69. Cf. *nātyartham hi uṣṇa-śītatā*. 70. Cf. *sthira-y. uvanāḥ*.

71. Cf. *asamśāryaḥ*. 72. Cf. *abuddhi-pūrvakam vṛttam*.

73. Cf. *aprayatīḥ kṛta-yuge karmāno subhupāpayoḥ*. 74. Cf. 8. 50 ff.

75. There is here a reference to the period of menstruation but we are unable to make out its significance.

76. Cf. *niskramacārāḥ te*. 77. Cf. 8. 77 ff.

78. Cf. 57. 82. 79. Cf. 57. 83. 80. Cf. 57. 81. 81. Cf. 57. 89 ff.

82. Cf. 57. 39. 83. Cf. 3. 21.

The Dvāpara-yuga: This Yuga is referred to in the Purāṇa very often in connection with the future incarnations of Śiva. It is said that the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th and 15th incarnations of Śiva will be taking place in the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 11th and 15th Dvāparas respectively. In the Dvāparas (*Dvāpareṣu*), the Vyāsas (*Vyāsāḥ*) extol the Vedas and compile them.<sup>84</sup> The Sūta quotes a speech of Brahmā to Manu in the Dvāpara of the Svāyambhuva Manvantara regarding the compilation of the Vedas.<sup>85</sup> The *Śrutarṣis* are said to have arranged the Veda in the Dvāparas again and again.<sup>86</sup> But we also find a statement that though the Vedas were compiled in the Tretā they suffered a change in the Dvāparas.<sup>87</sup> The plural of Dvāpara in the cases cited above should be noted.<sup>88</sup>

The Kali-yuga: Instead of Kali, at some places, Tiṣya is mentioned.<sup>89</sup> Śiva tells the gods that in this fierce age there will be neither happiness nor emancipation and the people will be devoured by Kāla. But he further adds, "When this age arrives, I will be born for the sake of the world and be worshipped. So you need not be afraid".<sup>90</sup> The Sūta explains to his audience how Śiva, forsaking the former Yugas, has avatāras only in the Kali age.<sup>91</sup> But we have already seen that some of the future incarnations of Śiva were to take place in various Dvāpara ages. The 1st, 13th, 14th, 17th, 22nd and 26th incarnations will, however, take place in the Kali age.<sup>92</sup>

It is stated that in this age the Brahmins and the Kṣatriyas will be exterminated for the sake of the twice-born.<sup>93</sup> It is also said that the people of this Yuga have a longevity of only a hundred years.<sup>94</sup>

The conditions obtaining at the end of this Yuga have, however, received more attention in the Purāṇa. In this Yuga, the character of the people is dominated by vices, such as, violence, hatred, falsehood, etc. Dharma is on the decline and famine and pestilence take their toll. The authority of the *Smṛti* is neglected<sup>95</sup> and untimely deaths are common. The people, impious and addicted to bad customs as they are, do not study the Vedas nor do they perform sacrifices. The Kṣatriyas and the Vaiśyas become exterminated gradually and the Śūdras and the low-born (*antya yones tu*) are befriending the Brahmins in matters such as eating, drinking and merry-making'.<sup>96</sup> Society is topsy-turvy, the Śūdras acting as Brahmins and *vice versa*. Kings and

84. Ka suggests that the Dvāpara had passed away when the speech was made; cf. 60. 2.

85. Cf. 61. 124. 86. Cf. 57. 47. 87. Cf. also 57. 48, 58. 15.

88. Cf. 24. 1; 58. 30 ff. 89. Cf. 32. 18 ff. 90. Cf. 26. 2-3.

91. Vide. Chapter. Avatāras of Śiva.

92. Omitted in Ka. The exact significance of this statement is not clear. Cf. 32. 42-3 93. Cf. 59. 4.

94. Cf. *na pramāṇaṁ smṛter asti*. 95. Cf. *layandīśabhojanaiḥ*.

thieves exchange their functions and the kings, Sūdras as they are, propagate the faiths of the impious.<sup>96</sup> The women, with no virtues or vows to bother, will turn out to be drunkards. Beasts will wax strong in number while the number of the cows will go diminishing. The earth is barren of vegetation. The Sūdras "will be" practising penance and the kings, instead of protecting the people, "will" bother only about their own protection. Everywhere, Sūdras are respected<sup>97</sup> and in this Kali-yuga there "will be" many yatis with the impious and useless *Pāṣaṇḍas*<sup>98</sup> multiplying fast. There will be more women than men. The Cūlikas "will be" stealing away the valuable property of others and will indulge in all kinds of vices. The Kauśikas will be deserting their countries being affected by famine. Alas!<sup>99</sup> nowhere are the Vedas seen nor the sacrifices performed. The Nirgranthas, the Kāpālinas, the dealers in the Vedas and tirthas and the Pāṣaṇḍas who have spoiled the varṇāśrama order will dominate the picture. The Vedas are not studied nor the *aśvamedha* performed by kings while the murder of women and cows becomes a common occurrence. While this is the state of things, there *was* born Pramiti, of Candramas gotra—an incarnation (*amśa*) of god Mādhava in the Svāyambhuva Manvantara—who proceeded to bring about the destruction of the Bhṛgu.<sup>100</sup> He raised an army of armed Brahmins and commenced annihilating the various peoples such as the Mlecchas, Vṛśalas, etc. After achieving this, he gave up his life at the confluence (?) of the rivers Gaṅgā and Yamunā. This is then followed by anarchy and social disorders and after some period the Kṛta age dawned.<sup>101</sup>

In the description of the tenth avatāra—i.e. Kalki—of Viṣṇu, we find a similar state of things sketched briefly. Kalki too will bring about the annihilation of the various peoples, such as, the Mlecchas and others,<sup>102</sup> and will end his life in the same manner as Pramiti did. After him again there will be anarchy and disruption and the Kṛta age will dawn.<sup>103</sup>

The same state of things is described a third time in the form of an epilogue to the genealogical lists.<sup>104</sup>

The fire that is said to work destruction at the end of a Yuga is a subject for simile to express fierceness.<sup>105</sup> The heat and light of the sun at the end of a Yuga is equally used metaphorically.<sup>106</sup> Śiva says to

96. Cf. *Pāṣaṇḍānām pravartakāḥ*.

97. Cf. *Sūdrābhivādināḥ sarve*.

98. Cf. *vythārūpaḥ pāṣaṇḍaḥ*.

99. Cf. *dyānte na ca dyānte*.

100. Cf. *Bhṛgūnām madhanusthitaḥ*. This abrupt reference to Bhṛgu appears strange in the context.

101. In the whole of the above description confusion of tenses should be noted.

102. Cf. No. 842 of App. for details.

103. Cf. 98, 103 ff.

104. For details see No. 844 App.

105. Cf. 30, 128; 94, 37 etc.

106. Cf. 54, 85-6; 54, 58 etc.

Viṣṇu that in the decline of the Yuga, excepting both of them, people have no other resort.<sup>107</sup> When the end of a Yuga draws near Śiva devours all the *bhūtas* (i.e. creatures).<sup>108</sup>

#### Yugas in Relation to Events and Personalities :

##### A. KR̥TA-YUGA

- (1) King Bāhu, the father of Sagara, was deprived of his kingdom by the Haihayas, etc.,<sup>109</sup> in the *dharmya Satya-yuga*.<sup>110</sup> It is not certain whether we should take this *Satya* or *Dharma yuga* as meaning *Kṛta-yuga*.<sup>111</sup>
- (2) Jāmadagnya Rāma annihilated the Kṣatriyas in the *Kṛta-yuga*.<sup>112</sup>

##### B. TRETĀ-YUGA

- (1) In the *ādyā* (i.e. first ?) *Tretā* age of the *Vaivasvata Manvantara*, *Bhrgu* and the other sages were born.<sup>113</sup>
- (2) The 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th *avatāras* of Viṣṇu took place in the 7th, 10th, 15th, 19th and 24th *Tretā-yugas* respectively.<sup>114</sup>
- (3) King *Karandhama*, a descendant of *Nābhāga*, flourished in the beginning of the *Tretā* age.<sup>115</sup>
- (4) *Tṛṇabindu*, a descendant of *Karandhama*—13 generations removed from him—also flourished in the beginning of the third *Tretā* age.<sup>116</sup>
- (5) In the beginning of the third *Tretā* age king *Tṛṇabindu* (the same king as above ?) had a beautiful daughter who was married to the sage *Pulastya*.<sup>117</sup>
- (6) Rāma killed Rāvana in the 24th *Tretā* age.<sup>118</sup>
- (7) King *Purūravas* flourished in the *Tretā* age.<sup>119</sup>

##### C. DVĀPARA-YUGA

- (1) The 8th and 9th *avatāras* of Viṣṇu took place in the 28th *Dvāpara* age.
- (2) It is said that in the 28th *Dvāpara*, *Acchodā*, an *Apsaras*, was born as a daughter of a fisherman. Her name was *Satyavatī*. She gave birth, through her cohabitation with *Parāśara*, to the great sage (*Vyāsa*) who arranged the *Vedas*.<sup>120</sup>
- (3) In the second *Dvāpara*, king *Dirghatapas* practised penance and pleased *Dhanvantari* who was then born as a son of the king.<sup>121</sup>

107. Cf. 25. 23. 108. Cf. 30. 74. 109. Cf. No 345 App.

110. *Kha*, *Ga*, *Gha* and *Na* read *dharme satī yuge* which probably means *dharma-yuga*. The expression, it appears, is incorrect Sanskrit.

111. Cf. 88. 123. 112. Cf. 99. 449. 113. Cf. 30. 76.

114. *Gha* omits the information regarding the 5th and the 6th incarnations.

115. Cf. *Tretā-yuga-mukhe bhavet* 86. 3-7.

116. Cf. *Tretā-yuga mukhe rājā tyāye sambhūva ha* : 86. 15.

117. 70. 31. 118. 70. 48. 119. 91. 48. 120. 73. 16 ff. 121. 92. 17-22.

## D. KALI-YUGA

- (1) The tenth avatāra of Viṣṇu will take place at the end of the Kali age.
- (2) It appears that the destruction of the city of Vārāṇasī, at the hands of Gaṇeśa Kṣemaka, took place in the Kali age.<sup>122</sup> King Divodāsa was ruling at that time.<sup>123</sup>
- (3) Kali-yuga commenced on the very day when Kṛṣṇa died.<sup>124</sup>
- (4) The experts on ancient tradition say that at the time of king Kṣemaka, the last of the Paurava line, the Kali age will begin.<sup>125</sup>
- (5) The knowers of the future cite a stanza that the Kali age will commence from the time of Sumitra, the last king of the Ikṣvākus.<sup>126</sup>

The following stanza is cited regarding the terminating point between the Kali and the next Kṛta-yuga :

*yadā candras ca sūryas ca tathā tiṣṭya-bṛhaspatiḥ  
eka-rātre bhaviṣyanti tadā kṛta-yugaṁ bhavet.*<sup>127</sup>

Schematic References to Yugas : Brahmā is adored in the Kṛta, Sacrifice in the Tretā, Viṣṇu in the Dvāpara and Śiva in all the ages.<sup>128</sup> The Vedas are revered in the Kṛta, the Suras in the Tretā, wars in the Dvāpara and Pāśaṇḍas in the Kali.<sup>129</sup> The four Yugas are the four pādas of Viṣṇu in his Vārāha form.<sup>130</sup> The Kṛta is associated with Brahmins, the Tretā with Kṣatriyas, the Dvāpara with Vaiśyas and the Kali with Śūdras.<sup>131</sup> Dhyāna in Kṛta, Jñāna in Tretā, Yajña in Dvāpara and Dāna in Kali are the best things.<sup>132</sup> There is also a gradual morphological deterioration in men and animals in the different yugas.<sup>133</sup> Happiness, life, strength, beauty, dharma, artha, and kāma—all these suffer in degrees in the different Yugas.<sup>134</sup> In the Kṛta age dharma did not exist ; it was promulgated in the Tretā and was on the decline<sup>135</sup> in Dvāpara and finally destroyed in the Kali.<sup>136</sup> In the Tretā dharma is 'yearly', in the Dvāpara 'monthly' and in the Kali 'daily'.<sup>137</sup>

127. 92. 60. 123. Cf. No. 1403 App. 124. 99 428. 125. Cf. 99 279.

126. Cf. 99 292. 127. For *rātre* Kha has *rātau* ; cf. 99. 413.

128. Cf. 32. 21. 129. Cf. 78. 37. 130. Cf. 23 105. 131. Cf. 78. 36.

132. Cf. 8. 65. 133. Cf. 59. 5 ff. 134. Cf. 58. 111-3.

135. Cf. *vyākṛti-bhūtoḥ*. 136. Cf. 58. 5 137. Cf. 58. 72.

## CHAPTER VI TOWNS, VILLAGES AND DWELLINGS

### I. TOWNS AND VILLAGES

**The Origin of the Communal Settlements :** In the Cākṣuṣa and in the Manvantaras preceding it, the face of the earth was uneven and there were neither cities nor villages. It was in the Vaivasvata Manvantara that they had their origin. In the Kṛta age, too, people probably had no communal settlements, such as villages or hamlets. In the Tretā-yuga, however, there was a climatic crisis. The climate became extreme which brought many sufferings upon the people. Formerly the people were of nomadic habits and had no fixed dwellings<sup>1</sup> but now, due to the change in climate, they felt the necessity of resorting to some sort of shelter.<sup>2</sup> They raised artificial structures amidst hills and dales, in the wilds and lowlands and along the river-banks, according to their requirements and tastes.<sup>3</sup> Such is the origin of the dwellings of men which were primarily meant for protection against heat and cold.<sup>4</sup>

**Different Terms used for Communal Settlements :** Durga, i.e., Fort : A fort or *durga* is perhaps surrounded by a ditch, always filled with water.<sup>5</sup> There are four kinds of durgas. The first three kinds of durgas, names of which are not mentioned, are protected by hills and ditches.<sup>6</sup> The fourth kind of durga is called the *Kṛtrima*, i.e., artificial. It is distinguished by a rampart that runs round it. It has only one gate known as the *svastika* and has a *Kumārīpura* in it.<sup>7</sup> The ditch in front of the gate is about 8 × 10 *hastas* deep and wide (according to some 8 × 9 *hastas*<sup>8</sup>). River-fort (*nadī-durga*) is also mentioned.

**Puras, Kheṭas, and Grāmas, etc. :** A *nagara* or *pura* covers an area of a yojana, a *kheṭa*, of half a yojana and a *grāma*, of one-fourth yojana. (?)<sup>9</sup> Thus these terms are probably equivalent to the modern terms such as city, town and village. King Purūravas is said to have passed by *Kūlas*, *khetas*, *kharvaṣas*, *Vāṭis* and *Nagaras* in the search of his beloved Urvaśī.<sup>10</sup> King Kārtavīrya Arjuna shot arrows which set fire to

1. Cf. *pūrvam nikhāmacārās te anik-tāśrayā bhṛtam*. 2. Cf. *cakrur āvaranāni ca*.

3. Cf. *yathā-yogyam yathā-prīti nikheteṣu avasan punaḥ marudhanvasu nimneṣu parvateṣu nadiṣu ca*.

4. Cf. *ārabdhās te nikhētān vaḥ kartum ītiṣṭha-vāranam*. Note the omission of reference to rainfall. 8 9, -100.

5. Cf. *sanīrayanti ca durgāni dhanvānam śāśvatadakam* 8, 98.

6. Cf. *trividhānām ca durgāṇam p.rvatadaka-bandhanam* 8, 111.

7. What this *Kumārīpura* signifies it is difficult to say.

8. This rendering is liable to be doubtful; cf. *srotasīsamhatadvāraṁ nikhātām punar eva ca hastāṣṭam ca daśa śreṣṭhā navāṣṭam vāḥ pare matāḥ* : 8, 110.

9. Cf. 9, 116-7. 10. Cf. 91, 29-30 Kha omits this.

*purāṣas*, *ghoṣas*, *grāmas* and *pattanas*.<sup>11</sup> Gift of *grāmas* or villages to Brahmins in *śrāddha* and in the *āśvamedha* of Janaka has already been referred to

**Town-planning and Units of Measurement of Distance :** Before proceeding to explain the plans of the various kinds of towns or villages in the *Tretā* age, we have, in the *Purāṇa*, a brief information on the various units of measurements of distances. They are : *Angula*, *Hasta*, *Kiṣku*, *Dhanus*,<sup>12</sup> *Prādeśa*, *Īlā*, *Gokarṇa*, *Vitasti*, *Ratni*,<sup>13</sup> *Gavyūti* and *Yojana*. The following table gives some idea about their relations to each other :<sup>14</sup>

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 8 <i>Angulas</i> = <i>Prādeśa</i> (?) ; | 12 <i>Angulas</i> = <i>Vitasti</i> ;                  |
| 21 <i>Angulas</i> = <i>Ratni</i> ;      | 2 <i>Ratnis</i> or 42 <i>Angulas</i> = <i>Kiṣku</i> ; |
| 24 <i>Angulas</i> = <i>Hasta</i> ;      | 4 <i>Hastas</i> = <i>Dhanus</i> ;                     |
| 2000 <i>Dhanus</i> = <i>Gavyūti</i> ,   | 8000 <i>Dhanus</i> = <i>Yojana</i> .                  |

It is not clear whether *Nālikā-yuga*<sup>15</sup> was also a unit.

Elsewhere the following appear as the units of measurement of distance :

*Mahāsthūla*,<sup>16</sup> *Bhūtādi-Sthūla*, *Paramānu*,<sup>17</sup> *Trasareṇu* (or *Padma-rajās*), *Rathareṇu*,<sup>18</sup> *Balāgra*,<sup>19</sup> *Likṣā*, *Yūkā*, *Yava*, *Angula*, *Vitasti*, *Ratni*, *Hasta*, *Kiṣku*, *Dhanus*, *Danḍa*, *Yuga*, *Nāli*, *Gavyūti*, *Nalva*, *Yojana* and *Krośa*.

The table is as follows :

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 10 <i>Mahāsthūlas</i> = <i>Bhūtādisthūla</i> ; | 10 <i>Bhūtādisthūlas</i> = <i>Paramānu</i> . |
| 8 <i>Paramānus</i> = <i>Trasareṇu</i> ;        | 8 <i>Trasareṇus</i> = <i>Rathareṇu</i> .     |
| 8 <i>Rathareṇus</i> = <i>Balāgra</i> ;         | 8 <i>Balāgras</i> = <i>Likṣā</i> .           |
| 8 <i>Likṣās</i> = <i>Yūkā</i> ,                | 8 <i>Yūkās</i> = <i>Yava</i> .               |
| 8 <i>Yavas</i> = <i>Anguli</i> .               |  |

The table following *Angula* agrees with the one given above but the following additional details are to be noted : *Dhanus*, *Danḍa*, *Yuga* and *Nāli* are equal.

300 *Dhanus* = *Nalva*.

1000 *Yojanas* = *Śakra-Krośa* (i.e. *Krośa* of *Indra*).

It should be noted that in this connection we find a reference to experts on the knowledge of *Saṁkhyā*.<sup>20</sup> Reference to *Yojanas* is very common in the geographical chapters of the *Purāṇa*.

11. Cf. 94. 40 ; cf. also 95. 9-10.

12. The last three are omitted in Ka. 13. From *Prādeśa* to *Ratni* omitted in Gha.

14. Cf. 9. 100-7. 15. 8. 106. 16. The shortest visible distance.

17. The shortest particle of dust visible in the sun-beam.

18. The particle of dust caused by the movement of a chariot.

19. Kha, Gha and Ņa *Balāgra*.

20. Cf. *Saṁkhyāyājñāna-viśāradaiḥ* : 101. 115-198.



## TOWN-PLANNING

Site for the Town and Village : Every communal settlement should be situated near mountains and water-sheds.<sup>21</sup> The case of the artificial *durga* was probably an exception.

Cities situated on the "tops of hills" or at "the foot of mountains" are often mentioned in the geographical chapters.<sup>22</sup> Most of these cities belonged to the *Daityas*, *Dānavas*, *Gandharvas*, *Vidyādhara*s, etc. The city of *Laṅkā* was situated on the *Trikūṭa* mountain and was inaccessible.<sup>23</sup> Cities or *tīrthas* situated on the banks of rivers are also mentioned. There is again an allusion to a river-fort (*nadī-durga*) in a prayer by *Dakṣa* to *Śiva*.<sup>24</sup>

We have also a reference to the city of *Guha* which was situated in a cave on the *Viśākhā* mountain.<sup>25</sup>

It is not clear whether the plan of a town or village is to be triangular in shape.<sup>26</sup> A city (*nagara*) is probably required to be  $1 \times 1$  *yojana* in its area, a town (*kheṭa*) covering half its area and a village (*grāma*) half the area of the town.<sup>27</sup>

But in the case of the cities of the geographical chapters, we find references to their area being more or less fanciful. For example, the spacious city of *Laṅkā* was  $100 \times 30$  *yojanas* in extent.<sup>28</sup> The cities of *Gandharvas* on the *Kailāsa* occupied  $1000 \times 30$  *yojanas* of area.<sup>29</sup>

Of Village Boundaries : The boundary (of a village or town) should extend to two *Krośas* around it and the boundaries of the fields in this area should be four *dhanus*.<sup>30</sup>

Village Roads and Streets in the Town : The roads leading to various directions from a village or town should be twenty *dhanus* wide and the road across the boundary-line should be ten *dhanus* wide.<sup>31</sup> The street leading to the king's palace (i. e., *rājapathaḥ*) should be ten *dhanus* wide and it should provide easy passage for men, horses, chariots and elephants.<sup>32</sup> The other streets should be four *dhanus* wide. The lanes and bylanes (*uparathyāḥ* and *uparathyakāḥ*) and the paths joining the buildings with the streets (?) (*grha-rathyāḥ*) should also be four *dhanus* wide.<sup>33</sup> There is a reference to *Ghaṇṭā-patha* which probably refers to a village high-way or a main road passing through a

21. Cf. *Khṛtānām nagarānām ca grāmānām caiva sarvaśaḥ trividhānām ca durgānām parvatodaka bandhanam* : 8. 111.

22. Cf. Nos. 229, 437, 469, 727, 826, 905, 935, 1048, 1085, 1285, 1302, 1323, etc. App.

23. Cf. No. 437 App. 24. Cf. 30. 2:8. 25. Cf. 39. 55.

26. Cf. *chunna-karnam vikarnam tu vyañjanam Kṛta-saṁśhitam* : 8. 113.

27. Cf. 8. 116-7. 28. No. 437 App. 29. No. 469 App.

30. Cf. *dvikrośam paramā śīmā kṣetra-śīmā catur-dhanuḥ* : 8. 117.

31. Cf. *viśāḍ-dhanur grāma-mārgaḥ śīmā-mārgo dāśa eva tu* 8. 118.

32. Cf. *nvāji-ratha-nāgānām asaṁbādhaḥ susaṁcaraḥ* : 8. 119. 33. Cf. 8. '20.

village.<sup>34</sup> It should be four pādas wide being separated from the buildings by three pādas.<sup>35</sup> The *vytti-mārgas* should be one half pāda wide and the *prāg-vamśa* one pāda.<sup>36</sup>

Elsewhere we find it stated that a yogin ought not to perform *dhyānas* (i. e. feats of concentration) at the *catuṣpathas* (i. e. where four roads meet).<sup>37</sup> The god Śiva, however, is addressed as having a fascination for *cātuṣpatha* and is also called *rathya*, *virathya*.<sup>38</sup> In connection with the *Pisācas* we are told that they haunt the *rāja-mārgas*, *uparathyas*, etc.<sup>39</sup> The cities of *Rākṣasas*, *Daityas*, etc., are said to have hundreds of *pratolīs* (i. e. broad-ways or main roads).<sup>40</sup> The city of *Kālakeya* *Asuras* on the *Devakūta* mountain had broad streets.<sup>41</sup>

City-gates and Ramparts : The *svastika*-gate of the artificial kind of *durga* has been described above. The main-gate of a town or city should be, it is stated, 800 *kṣus*.<sup>42</sup> The city of *Dvāravatī* had many gates.<sup>43</sup> That there was some reverence or awe inspired by a gate of a city appears from the story of the destruction of the city of *Vārāṇasī*.<sup>44</sup>

The cities of *Kinnaras* situated on the *Mahānīla* mountain are said to have had *bīla-praveśas*.<sup>45</sup> The city of the *Daityas* on the southern side of the *Niṣadha* mountain had a cave entrance.<sup>46</sup> Gates and ramparts are often mentioned in connection with the description of the cities of the *Daityas*, *Asuras*, *Gandharvas*, etc. The city of *Vidyādhara*s had *mahāprākāra-toraṇa*, a big gate and a wide rampart<sup>47</sup> and such was also the case with the city of the *Saimhikeya* *Daityas*.<sup>48</sup> The city of *Laṅkā* had 'golden' gates and ramparts<sup>49</sup> that being also the feature of the city of the *Autkaca* *Rākṣasas*.<sup>50</sup> It should be noted that most of these cities were supposed to have been situated in the midst of hills (or on the hills) and are described to be "difficult of access". Thus they were taken to be well protected because of their natural situation as well as of the construction of their enclosures. Ditches around the *durga* have been already noted above. They probably ran along the

34. The name is probably derived from its being frequented by elephants and cattle, adorned with tinkling ornaments such as bells, etc.

35. Cf. *ghaṇṭā-pathaś catuṣ-pādas tripādam ca ghaṇṭataram*. The three pādas may also refer to the distance between two buildings. 8. 121.

36. We are unable to bring out the exact significance of the information about the last two cf. 8. 121. 37. Cf. 11. 33-4.

38. Cf. name *rathya-virathya* *catuṣpaiha-ratāya ca*. Na. *catuṣpatharathya*; and Ga. *catuṣpatharathāya* 30. 220.

39. Cf. *rāja-mārgoparathyaś ca ... Pisācā vimivṛṣṭā vai sthāneṣu steṣu sarvataḥ*. 69. 283.

40. Cf. 41. 50-4 and Nos. in App. quoted above for references in the text.

41. Cf. *viśālarathya* 40. 11-5.

42. Cf. *atha kṣus-śatāni aṣṭau prāhur mukhyaṁ niveśanam* : 8. 116.

43. *Bahu-dvārā*; cf. 86. 26-1. 44. No. 1403 App.

45. Cf. 39. 34. 46. *Guhāpraveśa* . cf. 41. 55. 47. Cf. 39. 60.

48. Cf. 40. 9-11. 49. *Hema-prākāra-toraṇā* . cf. 48. 27-9. 50. Cf. 40. 16-7.

rampart with a large opening in front of the main gate. Nine durgas are said to have protected the *kṣetra* (circuit) of the Vāyu-pura.<sup>51</sup>

Drainage and Gutters : In connection with the planning of a town we are told that the *āvaskara* (i. e. gutters?) and *parivāha*<sup>52</sup> should be one pāda wide.<sup>53</sup>

Buildings, Parks, Gardens, etc. : Tall buildings lined in rows in the cities of Daityas, etc. are often mentioned. The city of Laṅkā was *harmya-prāsāda-mālinī*.<sup>54</sup> The seven cities of Gandharvas were graced with lines of spacious mansions,<sup>55</sup> the same being the description of the city of the Saimhikeyas.<sup>56</sup> The mansion in the city of Kālakeya Asuras almost pierced the clouds.<sup>57</sup>

In the same cities we occasionally find references to the existence of gardens. The city of Ulaṅghin, a Rākṣasa, had many gardens,<sup>58</sup> similar being the description of the city of the Saimhikeya Daityas.<sup>59</sup>

There is only one instance of a *dharma-śālā* (resting house or a charitable institution) in the Vāyupura which was a holy place.<sup>60</sup>

Regarding the Composition of the Population : From the description of the population of Vāyupura<sup>61</sup> we learn that it consisted of 18000 twice-borns and 36000 Śūdras.

## II. HOUSES AND DWELLINGS

Origin of a Fixed Dwelling : While explaining the word *śālā* (building) an attempt is made to connect its origin with the tree and its over-spreading branches which, in former times, offered shelter and protection to men.<sup>62</sup> This may probably make us infer that the early dwelling was merely a hut for the construction of which branches of trees (primarily of *śālā* trees?) were used. The emphasis on this point of connection between the *śālā* and the *śākhās* is interesting.

Cave-dwellings : Śiva is associated with habitation in a cave. He is called *guhā-priya*<sup>63</sup> and *guhāvāsīn*.<sup>64</sup> Dakṣa, in his prayer to Śiva, offers salutations to those who dwell in caves.<sup>65</sup> Śiva says to Brahmā about his 28th incarnation as Nakulin that he will then be born with Viṣṇu in a cave of the Meru mountain.<sup>66</sup> The same god is called *sa-guha* (i. e. "with a cave"?).<sup>67</sup>

51. Cf. 59, 123 omitted in Ka, Ga and Ōa. 52. Kha, Ga, Ōa *parivāra*.

53. Cf. 8, 122. 54. Cf. 48, 27-9. 55. Cf. 40, 6-7. 56. Cf. 40, 9-11.

57. Cf. 40, 11-5. 58. Cf. 41, 54. 59. Cf. 40, 9-11. 60. Cf. 59, 126-7.

61. Cf. No. 1422 App.

62. *Te pūrvam āsan vai vṛkṣās tu grhasamsthitaḥ .. evam prasiddhāḥ śākhābhyah śālāi caiva grhāṇi ca* 8, 123-6 ; cf. also 8, 89.

63. Cf. 54, 116.

64. Cf. 24, 156. The name of Śiva in his 17th incarnation was *Guhāvāsīn*.

65. Cf. 30, 278. 66. Cf. 23, 221 cf. App. No. 814. 67. Cf. 30, 315, .

Caves were suitable for those of the last stage (*āśrama*) of life for purposes of meditation.<sup>68</sup> It is said that in the Kali age *Śūdras* and *Yatins* will be *gūḍha-vāsāḥ*.<sup>69</sup> One who goes to the cave of *Vāmana* is purified of his sin.<sup>70</sup>

The habitation of *Rkṣarāja Jāmbavat* was a huge cave where *Kṛṣṇa* fought against him for twenty-one days.<sup>71</sup>

Kinds of Dwellings : With the explanation of *śālā*, reference to *prāsāda* also occurs in the same context. Since it pleases the mind it is called *prāsāda*.<sup>72</sup> This is apparently an attempt at etymology. Anyway it suggests that *prāsāda* was regarded as more attractive and imposing in appearance than the *śālā* and probably it means a palatial building.

References to spacious buildings are noted above. We have an instance of the *bhavana* (mansion) of *Yaksa* which measured  $80 \times 40$  *yojanas*.<sup>73</sup>

*Dakṣa*, in the course of his prayer to god *Śiva*, offers salutations to those who are gone to *hastyaśvarathasālās*, i. e. to stables for elephants, horses and chariots<sup>74</sup> and *goṣṭhas* of cows are also referred to in a simile.<sup>75</sup> A stable which was not used (*jirṇa-goṣṭha*) was a taboo for a yogin for the purpose of meditation.<sup>76</sup>

It is said that the *Pisācas* haunt places such as *sūtikāgrhas* (i. e. maternity homes ?), *śmaśānāyatanas* (i. e. shelters raised in cremation ground) and *sūnyāgāras* (i. e. desolate houses).<sup>77</sup>

Of Construction of Buildings : *Viśvakarman* was an architect of the gods.<sup>78</sup> He is the presiding deity of architecture (*śilpi-prajāpati*) and is also mentioned as *Tvastr*. His wife was a daughter of *Fahllāda*. His son was *Maya*.<sup>79</sup> He is also mentioned elsewhere in the same capacity as a *śilpi-prajāpati*. He is the founder of the science of architecture of the gods.<sup>80</sup> He is also the maker of their ornaments and *vimānas*.<sup>81</sup> *Śiva* too is credited with being the originator of the science of architecture, he being the best architect himself.<sup>82</sup> *Siddhas* are also referred to as builders of the gods' dwellings.<sup>83</sup>

It appears that certain rites were performed when a house was first inhabited or its construction was first undertaken. The *Pisācas*

68. Cf. 17, 5. 69. Cf. 58 51.

70. Cf. 77, 82-3. The exact significance of this statement is not clear.

71. Cf. 96, 32-45.

72. Cf. *prasadati manas tāsu prasādyanti tāh* 8, 127; omitted in Na.

73. Cf. 41, 22-3. 74. Cf. 30, 278-9. 75. Cf. 30, 186, 76. Cf. 11, 33-4.

77. Cf. 69, 271 Ka omits reference to the last.

78. *Tṛidaśānām vāstukṛt*.

79. Cf. *Viśvakarmāmājaś caiva viśvakarmā mayah smṛtaḥ* : 84, 16-20.

80. Cf. *sa kartā sarva-śilpānām tṛidaśānām ca*. 81. Cf. 66, 28-30.

82. Cf. *śilpitāḥ śilpinām śreṣṭhah sarva-śilpapravartakaḥ* . 30, 253. 83. Cf. 39 50.

were supposed to haunt houses with regard to which *samśkāras* are not observed and which are inhabited without the observation of *ācāras*.<sup>84</sup>

The mention of following terms in connection with the description of buildings shows that they formed part of their structures :—*Sopāna* ( stair-case ), *Silātala* ( pavement ? ),<sup>85</sup> *Toraṇa* ( gate ),<sup>86</sup> *Valabhā* ( roof, wooden thatchet ), *Kūṭa* ( projection ), *Nirvyūha* ( door, gate or turret ),<sup>87</sup> *Gavākṣa* ( window ).<sup>88</sup> It should be noted that such terms are used only in connection with the description of the cities of *Daityas*, etc., mentioned above.

Houses appear to have been frequently exposed to dangers from fire. *Kṣāma* is the name of the fire which sets ablaze the dwellings of men.<sup>89</sup>

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84. Cf. ....*andādroṣitāni*.....*samśkārair varjitāni ca* 69. 281-2.

85. Cf. 54. 30-1. 86. Cf. 34. 67, 87. Cf. 38. 14-5. 88. Cf. 45. 32-9.

89. Cf. 29. 34.

## CHAPTER VII

### DRESS AND ORNAMENTS, FOOD AND DRINK

#### I. DRESS AND ORNAMENTS

##### (i) Dress.

Nudity : In the narration of the progeny of Kaśyapa we find the Piśācas described as naked (*nagnakāḥ*).<sup>1</sup> Śiva had by Sati thousands of sons who were not used to dress.<sup>2</sup> In prayers to Śiva he is often addressed as being "naked".<sup>3</sup>

Origin of Clothing and its Development : We have no evidence regarding dress in the sketch of the Kṛta age. Like houses and dwellings dress too had its origin in the Tretā age. This was an age of luxuriant vegetation and the trees offered man his requirements of clothes and ornaments.<sup>4</sup>

When we come to the chapters on śrāddha we find clothes as a primary necessity of man. It is stated that without clothes there can be no activity, no sacrifices, no knowledge of the Vedas, nay (not even) penance ; so should clothes be given particularly at the time of śrāddha.<sup>5</sup> We find gift of clothes to Brahmans on the occasion of śrāddha as a highly commendable act.<sup>6</sup>

Materials for Dress : *Leaves of Trees and Bark* : In connection with the origin of dress we have seen above how trees offered man the materials for his clothing. Whether this material consisted mainly of bark or leaves of trees it is difficult to say. The use of both the materials for the purposes of clothing is, however, often indicated. A brāhmacārin of the Tretā age was expected to wear clothes of bark and leaves of trees.<sup>7</sup> There is a reference to suggest that this was the dress peculiar to the munis who prepared it themselves. With reference to the conditions at the end of the Kali age it is said that the dress of the people at that time "will be" of bark and leaves of trees and that they "will" prepare it themselves "just as the munis do".<sup>8</sup> When the Asuras commenced practising austerities at the advice of their preceptor, Śukra Kāvya, they used *valkalas* ; and when the Devas

1. Cf. 69. 279.

\* 2. Cf. *vivāśān* Kha, Ga and Na *Viśāśān* i. e. swallowers of poison ; cf. also 10. 45-6.

3. Cf. *digvāśāya* or *digvastrāya* 24. 132 ; 24. 129 ; 54. 72 ; 54. 77 ; 97. 192 etc.

4. Cf. *vykās te gṛha-saṁsthītāḥ vastrāni ca prasūyante phalāny ābharanāni ca* . 8. 89.

5. Cf. *vastrābhāve kriyā nāsti yajñā Vedās tapāmsi ca tasmād vastrāni deyaṁ śrāddha-hāle viśeṣataḥ* 80. 39-40.

6. Cf. 80. 4-6.

7. Cf. *śraṇapatrājīnāni ca* 8. 183.

8. Cf. *śvaṇaḥ parṇaṁ ca vividham valkalāny aśināni ca svayam kṛtvā vivatsyanti yathā muni-jaṇāḥ* tatha. Kha, Ga and Na read *muni-jaṇāis* for *muni-jaṇās* : 99. 405.

attacked them in this condition which made them flee to the shelter of Kāvya's mother, the Asuras pleaded to the latter that the Devas had done an improper thing in attacking them while they were engaged in penance, "with the clothes of bark and leaves on them".<sup>9</sup> This may make us infer that these were not the clothes of the ordinary people. The Piśācas too are mentioned as wearing clothes of bark.<sup>10</sup> In prayers to the god Śiva he is often addressed as wearing these clothes.<sup>11</sup>

It is said that at the end of the Kali age people will be making use of clothes of this kind after the disruption of the society and the state had set in.<sup>12</sup>

✓Skin-garments : References to skin-garments occur mostly in connection with gods, particularly Śiva and with the Pitṛs. Śiva is called *Kṛttivāsa*.<sup>13</sup> Virabhadra is mentioned as *mygendra-Kṛtti-vāsa*<sup>14</sup> and as wearing the clothes made of tiger-skin.<sup>15</sup> The sons of Satī, the wife of Śiva, wore skin-garments.<sup>16</sup> *Kṛṣṇājina* is the dress for Brahmā,<sup>17</sup> Śiva<sup>18</sup> and Hari<sup>19</sup> likewise. The Pitṛs, too, love the *Kṛṣṇājina*.<sup>20</sup> It is stated that this will also be the dress of the people at the end of the Kali age.<sup>21</sup>

✓Use of Cotton, Silk, Wool and Linen : References to clothes and blankets made of these materials appear mostly in connection with gifts to Brahmins in śrāddha. Clothes and blankets made of wool and silk fetch for the giver the merit of the performance of a hundred *vājapeya* sacrifices<sup>22</sup> and to make a gift of garments of linen, silk and cotton is also highly meritorious.<sup>23</sup> The Sūdras and *Cūlikas* at the end of the Kali age "will be" *Kāṣāya-vāsasah*.<sup>24</sup>

Shape of Garments : Expressions such as *nānā-veśadharāḥ* (i. e. wearing different kinds of garments), *citraveśa-dharāḥ* or *vicitra-vastrā-bharaṇāḥ* (i. e. using various kinds of garments) are frequently used in the description of the Rākṣasas, Vidyādharas, etc.<sup>25</sup> But they do not make us infer anything. *Prāvaraṇa* (i. e. upper garment) is mentioned in connection with evil forebodings in dreams.<sup>26</sup> *Upavīta* and *ācchādana* are mentioned as good gifts in śrāddha.<sup>27</sup> Śiva is called *Yajñopavītin*.<sup>28</sup> The wife of god Saṁkara used one garment.<sup>29</sup>

Hair-dressing : The Piśācas are described as *lamba-keśāḥ* (i. e. long-haired).<sup>30</sup> One of the sons of Śiva in his eleventh incarnation had

9. Cf. 97. 108-25. 10. Cf. *cira-vāsasah* 69. 273.

11. Cf. *cira-vāsas* 97. 164; cf. *hiranyaśira* 55. 48; cf. also *valkalājinadhārīne*, *valkalājinavāsas* : 30. 224; cf. also 24. 93 etc.

12. Cf. 58. 98; 98. 121.

13. Cf. 97. 192; 21. 50-1 etc. 14. Cf. 30. 123-4. 15. Cf. 30. 125.

16. Cf. 10. 45-6. 17. Cf. 25. 80; 55. 14. 18. Cf. 30. 221.

19. Cf. 25. 34. 20. Cf. 74. 4. 21. Cf. 99. 410.

22. Cf. 80. 34. 23. Cf. 80. 37; cf. also 75. 29. 24. Cf. 58. 58-9.

25. Cf. 38. 16-7; 70. 62 etc. 26. Cf. 19. 33. 27. Cf. 80. 4-5.

28. Cf. 30. 221. 29. Cf. *eka-vāsas*; Ga : *eka vāsas* : 9. 91.

30. Cf. 69. 279. Ga, Gha and Na have a different reading.

a name Lambakeśaka. The Cūlikas who will flourish at the end of the Kali-yuga are mentioned as *mukta-keśāḥ* (i. e. with hair dishavelled).<sup>31</sup> Śiva too is called '*mukta-keśa*'.<sup>32</sup>

The *jaṭā* of Śiva is, however, a matter for much description and epithets. He is called *eka-jaṭa*,<sup>33</sup> *tri-jaṭin*,<sup>34</sup> *cūḍāla* (i. e. having a top-knot),<sup>35</sup> *jaṭāmālin*,<sup>36</sup> etc. The Kumārakas, who were regarded as the sons of Śiva, too, are described to have *jaṭās*.<sup>37</sup> The Bhūtas are also *jaṭilāḥ*.<sup>38</sup>

A brahmacārin, in the Tretā age, was also a *jaṭin*.<sup>39</sup> '*Śikhin*', '*Śikhāṇḍin*', '*Śikhā-yukta*' are also epithets of Śiva.<sup>40</sup> The name *Pañca-bikha* of one of the four sons of Śiva in his eighth incarnation is also mentioned. The origin of the name might have some connection with the fashion of five knots of hair. Apsarasas also are called *pañca-cūḍāḥ* (i. e. having five braids of hair?).<sup>41</sup>

Growth of the Beard : Śiva is called *haricchmaśruḥ* (i. e. wearing grey beard)<sup>42</sup> and the Piśācas are mentioned as *śmaśrulāḥ* (i. e. bearded).<sup>43</sup>

When king Yayāti requested his son Yadu to exchange his youth for his own old age, the latter replied, "I do not wish to become a decrepit old man with a grey beard".<sup>44</sup>

Following are the indignities which king Sagara inflicted upon his enemies before he allowed them their freedom. The Śakas had their heads half-shaved while the Yavanas and Kāmbojas had clean-shaving. The Pāradas were allowed to go with their hair dishavelled and the Palhavas were allowed (only) to retain their beards.<sup>45</sup>

*Uṣṇīṣa* : References to *uṣṇīṣa* are often noted in the description of Śiva's appearance. He is called *uṣṇīṣa*,<sup>46</sup> *śvetoṣṇīṣa*,<sup>47</sup> *pītoṣṇīṣa*,<sup>48</sup> *kr̥ṣṇoṣṇīṣa*,<sup>49</sup> etc. Brahmā too is adorned with *śvetoṣṇīṣa*.<sup>50</sup> The Rākṣaṣas are mentioned as wearing crowns and *uṣṇīṣa*.<sup>51</sup>

#### ORNAMENTS

Of Ornaments in General : General references to ornaments, as in the case of different kinds of garments, are common in the Purāṇa and all such references need not be noted here. For example, Śiva is mentioned as being adorned with various kinds of ornaments.<sup>52</sup>

- |  |  |                          |                     |
|--|--|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 31. Cf. 58. 58-9.  | 32. Cf. 97. 165                                    | 33. Cf. 55. 51-5.        | 34. Cf. 30. 189.    |
| 35. Cf. 30. 250.   | 36. Cf. 23. 186-8.                                 | 37. Cf. 23. 59.          | 38. Cf. 69. 245 ff. |
| 39. Cf. 8. 182.  | 40. Cf. 22. 10; 30. 250; 97. 162 ff.; 23. 115 etc. |                          |                     |
| 41. Cf. 69. 49.  | 42. Cf. 30. 24.                                    | 43. Cf. 69. 273.         |                     |
| 44. Cf. <i>sitaśmaśru-dhara dīno jarayā tūhili-kṛtāḥ</i> 92. 33.   |  |                          |                     |
| 45. Cf. <i>ordhaṁ takānām śraso mundaṣitvā vyasaṁjayaṭ yavanānām śiraḥ sarvaṁ kāmbojanām tathaiṣa ca pāradaḥ mukta-keśāḥ ca pahlavāḥ śmaśru-dhārīṇaḥ</i> 88. 140-1 |  |                          |                     |
| 46. Cf. 97. 162 ff.  | 47. Cf. 22. 10.                                    | 48. Cf. 23. 2-3; 23. 17. | 49. Cf. 23. 63-4.   |
| 50. Cf. <i>śvetoṣṇīṣa-bhūṣaṇaḥ</i> 24. 52.   | 51. Cf. <i>mukhoṣṇīṣa-dhārīṇaḥ</i> 70. 62.         |                          |                     |
| 52. Cf. <i>nānā-bhūṣaṇabhūṣitaḥ</i> 55. 53.  |  |                          |                     |



Heavenly ornaments enhanced the beauty of Chāyā, the wife of Puṣṭi.<sup>53</sup> The name of Viśvakarman, the goldsmith of the gods,<sup>54</sup> is already noted above in connection with the construction of buildings.

For the sake of convenience, the references to ornaments together with the relevant details about them are given below in an alphabetical order :—

|                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <i>Akṣamālā</i>      | In the seventh Rasātala ( i. e. Pātāla ) rules king Bali adorned with an akṣamālā. <sup>55</sup>   |
| <i>Āṅgada</i>        | It was used as an ornament by the people of the Kuru land, <sup>56</sup> by Śiva <sup>57</sup> and by the Rākṣasas. <sup>58</sup>  |
| <i>Dāman</i>         | Virabhadra wore a jewelled necklace. <sup>59</sup>   |
| <i>Ghaṇṭā</i>        | ( It is not certain whether it was an ornament ). Śiva is often associated with its use. He loved a garland of bells. <sup>60</sup> He is called <i>ghaṇṭā-priya</i> <sup>61</sup> and <i>ghaṇṭika</i> . <sup>62</sup> |
| <i>Hāra</i>          | Used by the people of the Kuru land. <sup>63</sup> The Śūras are called <i>hāra-kāh</i> . <sup>64</sup>  |
| <i>Kāñcana-paṭṭa</i> | Belt made of gold. It was recommended as a gift to a Brahmin in śrāddha. <sup>65</sup>   |
| <i>Keyūra</i>        | It was an ornament used by the people of the Kuru land <sup>66</sup> and by Śiva. <sup>67</sup>  |
| <i>(Kinkinī</i>      | Its use is associated with Skanda (?) <sup>68</sup> and also with Śiva. <sup>69</sup>  |
| <i>Kirīṭa</i>        | Hari or Viṣṇu is called <i>Kirīṭin</i> . <sup>70</sup>   |
| <i>Kuṇḍala</i>       | Used by the Rākṣasas <sup>71</sup> and by the people of the Kuru country. <sup>72</sup> Bali, lord of Pātāla, is called <i>Kuṇḍalin</i> . <sup>73</sup>  |
| <i>Mekhalā</i>       | A brahmācārī in the Tretā age was expected to use mekhalā. <sup>74</sup> Śiva is called <i>muñja-mekhalin</i> ( i. e. having a girdle made of <i>muñja</i> grass ). <sup>75</sup>                                      |
| <i>Mukūṭa</i>        | Used by the Rākṣasas <sup>76</sup> and by the people of the Kuru country. <sup>77</sup>  |
| <i>Śrīvatsa</i>      | Śrīvatsa is called the <i>lakṣaṇa</i> ( distinguishing ornament ? ) of Viṣṇu. <sup>78</sup>  |

53. Cf. *divyābharaṇa-bhūṣitā* : 62. 83.

54. Cf. *bhūṣaṇānam...* ...*kartā*.

55. Cf. 50. 50. 56. Cf. No. 660 App.

57. Cf. 24. 153. 58. Cf. 70. 62.

59. Cf. *muktādāma-vibhūṣita* - 30. 127.

60. Cf. *ghaṇṭā-mālā-priyāya* : 30. 209-10.

61. Cf. 24. 159. 62. Cf. 30. 250.

63. Cf. No. 660 App.

64. Cf. 69. 183.

65. Cf. 80. 34.

66. Cf. No. 660 App.

67. Cf. 24. 153.

68. Cf. *kinkinījāla-mālin* : 41. 38.

69. Cf. 24. 148 ; cf. also 73. 73.

70. Cf. 24. 9 ; 24. 53.

71. 70. 62.

72. Cf. No. 660 App.

73. Cf. 50. 47.

74. Cf. 8. 182.

75. Cf. 24. 56.

76. Cf. 70. 62. 77. Cf. No. 660 App.

78. Cf. 25. 25.

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <i>Sroṇi-bandha</i> | The kings of Aiḍa-varṃśa are mentioned as being <i>Sroṇi-bandhāḥ</i> (i. e. having girdles round their waist ?). <sup>79</sup> |
| <i>Sūtra</i>        | The neck of Śiva, after he had swallowed the poison, shone as if it was adorned with a golden thread. <sup>80</sup>            |
| <i>Valaya</i>       | Its use is associated with the people of the Kuru land. <sup>81</sup>  |

Use of Garlands : Śiva is called *sragvin* (i. e. bearer of garland),<sup>82</sup> the same being the description of the Yakṣas,<sup>83</sup> of the people of the Kuru country<sup>84</sup> and of Puloma, the lord of the Vidyādhara.<sup>85</sup> The Rākṣasas too decorated themselves with garlands.<sup>86</sup> Śiva used the garland of lotus-flowers for his uṣṇīṣa.<sup>87</sup> He is also called *dhava-mālā-dhara* (i. e. decorated with garlands of white flowers).<sup>88</sup> Again he is mentioned as *pañca-mālārcitāṅga* (i. e. having his body decorated with five garlands).<sup>89</sup>

Cosmetics : The expression *mālyānulepana* occurs very frequently in connection with Śiva and the Kumārakas.<sup>90</sup> Śiva used various kinds of ointments.<sup>91</sup> The Rākṣasas too used garlands and ointments of various kinds.<sup>92</sup>

Śiva was fond of applying to his body the ashes from the cremation ground.<sup>93</sup>

Śiva used *gandha* also (for purposes of decoration).<sup>94</sup> Elsewhere he is called *Sugandhin*.<sup>95</sup> *Mālyas*, perfumes, *Gandha*, *dhūpa* and *guggula* were required for use in the performance of the śrāddha ceremony.<sup>96</sup> It was advised, however, that strong perfumes should not be used on the occasion.<sup>97</sup> *Turuṣka* was equally recommended for use in śrāddha.<sup>98</sup>

Reference to *añjana* (i. e. soot or kohl) also occurs. In connection with śrāddha we are informed that *trikakudañjana* is the best.<sup>99</sup> The wives of Mahiṣāsura, whom Kārtikeya annihilated, are also credited with the use of *añjana* for their eyes.<sup>100</sup>

79. Cf. 32. 47. 80. Cf. *hema-sūtra-ṣiḍhūṣita* 24. 154. 81. Cf. No. 660 App.

82. Cf. 24. 120. 83. Cf. 69. 162. 84. Cf. 45. 44-5.

85. Cf. 38. 16-7. 86. Cf. 70. 62. 87. Cf. 24. 155.

88. Cf. 24. 140. Kha, Ga, Gha and Na have *dhava* for *dhava*. 89. Cf. 30. 209.

90. Cf. 22. 10; 22. 23-31; 23. 2-3; 23. 17; 23. 26-31 etc. Also 30. 123-4.

91. Cf. *nānā-mālyānulepana* 55. 51-5. 92. Cf. *citra-sraganulepanāḥ* : 70. 62.

93. Cf. 30. 205; cf. also 55. 45-6. 94. Cf. 30. 205.

95. Cf. 24. 120. 96. Cf. 75. 5 ff.

97. Cf. *varjanīyāni*... *ugra-gandhāni yāni ca* . 75. 35. Ka has *upagandhāni* for *ugragandhāni*.

98. Cf. 75. 32

99. Cf. *śreṣṭham akus tri-kakudañ añjanam nityam eva ca* . 75. 31.

100. Cf. 54. 19.

## II. FOOD AND DRINK

On Food in General : In the first chapter of contents we find food also included as a topic for narration in the Purāṇa.<sup>101</sup>

That the plant world was considered to be the main source of sustenance of the people in the Tretā age is obvious from its description already given. The story of the Pṛthvī-dohana (i. e. "milching of the earth" by the king Pṛthu) is notable in this connection. In the Cākṣuṣa and in the Manvantaras preceding it, there were no food-grains, no cattle-breeding, etc.<sup>102</sup> But from the time of Vainya onwards, in the Vaivasvata Manvantara, all these came into being for the sake of man. The king Vainya "milched" the Earth in the form of a cow who yielded the milk in the form of food-grains. It is this food that enables the people to sustain themselves.<sup>103</sup> Elsewhere we find the self-born Creator "milching" the earth himself as a starting point for his creation of the plant world.<sup>104</sup> Reference to food being regarded as the best form of gift in śrāddha is already noted and we find here food elevated to the status of Prajāpati himself.<sup>105</sup>

Food-grains : With regard to the origin of the vegetable kingdom we have a reference to *grāmyauśadhis*. They probably mean cultivated grains and some of them might have been used as food-grains. In the śrāddha chapters we find nine kinds of grains mentioned as being good gifts in śrāddha<sup>106</sup> but they are not enumerated. The Purāṇa has for us a *gāthā* said to have been sung by king Yayāti himself. It refers, amongst other things, to *vrihi* and *yava* and the context of the reference suggests that they were regarded as food-grains.<sup>107</sup>

The list of food-preparations, given below, suggests that *masūra*, *saktu*, rice (i. e. *vrihi*), *tila* and *yava* were used as food-grains. As to what food-grains were employed in the food-preparations such as *pūpa*, *piṇyāka*, *karambha* and *kardama* it is difficult to state definitely.

Food Preparations : For the sake of convenience, references to food-preparations together with relevant details have been given below in an alphabetical order :

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <i>Guḍakulya</i> <sup>108</sup> | Used in Dakṣa-yajña. <sup>109</sup>                  |
| <i>Guḍaudana</i>                | Mentioned in connection with Piśācas. <sup>110</sup> |

101. Cf. *annādīnām ea .... ṛjjanam tyajanam tathā* 1 60.

102. Cf. *na sasyāni na gorakṣā....*

103. Cf. *sasyāni tena dugdhāni vairyena tu vasumidharā . ...tena ānmena tadā tā vai vartayante prajāḥ sadā* 62. 176

104. Cf. 8 147-50. This happened in the Tretā age

105. Cf. *annam Prejāpatih sākṣāt* 80 57

106. Cf. *navasatyāni yo dadyāt śrāddhe ..* cf. 80 49.

107. Cf. *yat pṛthivyām vrihi-yavam hiranyam paṣavah striyaḥ* 93. 96.

108. Kha and Gha : *Guḍakulya*. 109. Cf. 30. 152. 110. Cf. 69. 287.

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <i>Karambha</i>              | Recommended as a gift in śrāddha. <sup>111</sup>   |
| <i>Kardama</i>               | Used in Dakṣa-yajña. <sup>112</sup>  |
| <i>Khaṇḍa-śarkara-vālukā</i> | Used in Dakṣa-yajña. <sup>113</sup>  |
| <i>Kṛṣara</i>                | In connection with the Piśācas we find <i>Hāridra-Kṛṣara</i> mentioned. <sup>114</sup> <i>Kṛṣara</i> in which <i>Masūra</i> was used, is referred to as a gift in śrāddha. <sup>115</sup>  |
| <i>Kulmāṣa</i>               | Mentioned with <i>vyāñjana</i> as a good gift in śrāddha. <sup>116</sup>   |
| <i>Madhu-maṇḍodaka</i>       | Used in Dakṣa-yajña. <sup>117</sup>  |
| <i>Odana</i>                 | Mentioned in connection with Piśācas <sup>118</sup> and recommended as gift in śrāddha. <sup>119</sup>   |
| <i>Piṇyāka</i>               | Recommended as food for yogins. <sup>120</sup>   |
| <i>Piṣṭaka</i>               | Recommended as gift in śrāddha. <sup>121</sup>   |
| <i>Pr̥thuka</i>              | Pr̥thuka, in the preparation of which sugar and milk were used, is recommended as a good gift in śrāddha. <sup>122</sup>   |
| <i>Pūpa</i>                  | It was regarded as a good gift in śrāddha. <sup>123</sup> Oily (?) <i>pūpas</i> are mentioned in the same connection. <sup>124</sup>   |
| <i>Saktu</i>                 | Recommended as gift in śrāddha. <sup>125</sup>   |
| <i>Saktulāja</i>             | Recommended as gift in śrāddha. <sup>126</sup>   |
| <i>Sarpistila</i>            | Used for the <i>piṇḍi</i> in the śrāddha. <sup>127</sup>   |
| <i>Tilacūrṇa</i>             | Mentioned in connection with the Piśācas. <sup>128</sup> <i>Tila</i> mixed with <i>guḍa</i> is mentioned as a good gift in śrāddha. <sup>129</sup> <i>Tailabhadra</i> is also mentioned in connection with the Piśācas. <sup>130</sup> |
| <i>Vyañjana</i>              | Cf. Kulmāṣa above.   |
| <i>Yavagū</i>                | Yogins are advised to eat it with curds as a cure against <i>gudāvarta</i> , a kind of disease. <sup>131</sup> Also recommended as food for yogins. <sup>132</sup>   |
| <i>Yāvaka</i>                | Recommended as food for yogins. <sup>133</sup>   |

111. Cf. 80. 42. 112. Cf. 30. 151. 113. Cf. 30. 151. 114. Cf. 69. 287.  
 115. Cf. 80. 43-7. 116. Cf. *Kulmāṣa-vyañjanais tathā* 80. 47.  
 117. Cf. 30. 151. 118. Cf. 69. 287. 119. Cf. 80. 46. 120. Cf. 16. 14.  
 121. Cf. 80. 42. Kha, Gha and Na *Piṣṭikā*  
 122. Cf. *śarkarā-kṛtra-samyuktam pr̥thukam* 80. 47.  
 123. Cf. 80. 48. 124. Cf. *snigdhāmi ca pūpān yo dadyād* 80. 43; cf. also 81. 3.  
 125. Cf. 80. 48. Kha, Gha and Na have an altogether different reading.  
 126. Cf. 80. 48. 127. Cf. 75. 22. 128. Cf. 69. 287.  
 129. Cf. 82. 50. Gha omits this.  
 130. Cf. 69. 287. Kha, Ga and Na *Taila-bhākṣa*.  
 131. Cf. *bhuktvā dadhi yavagūṁ vā* . 11. 42. 132. Cf. 16. 13. 133. Cf. 16. 13.

Other food-stuffs, such as *guḍa*, *śarkarā*, *hāridra* and *taila*, have been noted in connection with the above food-preparations. In the account of creation we find *taila* extracted from *tila* mentioned in a simile<sup>134</sup> and a reference to *Tailika* (i. e. a dealer in oil) as a person unfit for invitation at a *śrāddha* also occurs.<sup>135</sup> There is a reference to *lavaṇa* (i. e. salt) which was a taboo for *yatis*.<sup>136</sup>

**Milk and its Products :** Milk is recommended as a food for the *yogins*.<sup>137</sup> Śiva is called *Kṣīrapa* (i. e. he was fond of milk).<sup>138</sup> Its use in *śrāddha* is common.<sup>139</sup> Milk figures as an important factor in the story of "the milching of the earth".<sup>140</sup>

Vessels filled with butter are good gifts in *śrāddha*.<sup>141</sup> *Ūrvaśī* is stated to have lived only on the food of *ghṛta* during her stay with king *Purūravas*.<sup>142</sup> *Dadhi* (curds) is frequently mentioned in connection with *śrāddha*<sup>143</sup> and is considered as good food for *yogins* troubled with gastric disorders.<sup>144</sup> *Takra* too is recommended as good food for *yogins*.<sup>145</sup>

In the geographical chapters we find *Dadhimaṇḍodaka*, *Ghṛtodaka*, *Kṣīroda* and *Kṣīravāhinī* as proper names for rivers or seas.

✓ **Soma :** Soma is usually referred to as a drink of the gods. Śiva is called *Somapa*.<sup>146</sup> In the reign of Vena, sacrifices ceased to be performed and gods were without their drink of Soma.<sup>147</sup> It was one of the most important objects created by *Brahmā* along with the *Vedas*<sup>148</sup> and in his boar form the Lord *Brahmā* is mentioned as *soma-śoṇita* (i. e. having Soma as his blood).<sup>149</sup> Its connection with *Indra* is also borne out. King *Dharmaratha* drank Soma with *Śakra* in a sacrifice performed on the *Viṣṇupada* mountain.<sup>150</sup> In spite of the opposition of *Indra*, *Tvaṣṭā* drank Soma and in consequence was hurled down on the earth by the latter.<sup>151</sup> The *Pitṛs* too drink Soma. After enjoying Soma-drink offered in *śrāddha* they commenced their *yogic* practices.<sup>152</sup>

Soma also figures in the story of the "milching of the earth" as the "milk" which *Bṛhaspati* "milched" with *gāyatrī* as the vessel.<sup>153</sup> Offering of Soma in *śrāddha*, particularly on the *amāvāsyā* day is recommended as a meritorious act.<sup>154</sup> A dealer in Soma (*soma-vikrayin*) is not to be invited for a *śrāddha*.<sup>155</sup>

134. Cf. *tilaṣu vā yatīhā tailam* . 5. 9. 135. Cf. 83. 62.

136. Cf. *abhojyāni yatīnām ca pratyakṣalavanāni ca* : 18. 20; omitted in Gha.

137. Cf. 16. 13. 138. Cf. 30. 266. 139. Cf. 80. 46-8 etc.

140 Cf. 62. 151 ff.; cf. also 1. 124; 8. 148 ff. 141. Cf. 80. 28.

142. Cf. *ghṛta-mātram tathā hāraḥ* . 91. 11. 143 Cf. 80. 42-4.

144. Cf. 11. 41-2 *vāta-gulma*. 145 Cf. 16. 13.

146. Cf. 97. 179-80; 30. 266-7 etc. 147. Cf. 62. 110; cf. also 30. 100; 30. 10. etc.

148. Cf. 3. 16. 149. Cf. 6. 19. 150. Cf. 99. 102. 151. Cf. 78. 6.

152. Cf. 71. 65-6; cf. also 73. 14; 73. 26; 73. 52; 30. 7 etc.

153. Cf. 62. 176-7. 154. Cf. 81. 20-2. 155. Cf. 83. 62.

The story of the birth of Soma, the eponymous ancestor of the lunar race, is narrated in the Purāṇa. The sage Atri was practising severe austerities as a result of which Soma (the drink) began to flow from his eyes to all the ten directions. It was ordained that ten goddesses should bear this *garbha* (i. e. Soma) but they could not do it and Soma rushed down towards the earth along with them. For the sake of the world Brahmā yoked his chariot (but why he did so is not clear). The mind-born sons of Brahmā then recited hymns from the Vedas and Soma was born together with the plant-world.<sup>156</sup>

*Amṛta* : The celestial drink *amṛta* is mentioned many times. Fruits as sweet as *amṛta* is a common expression.<sup>157</sup> *Amṛta* is often mentioned in similes, e.g. *māna* (pride) is compared to *amṛta* and *avamāna* (insult) to poison.<sup>158</sup> The Vāyu Purāṇa itself is called *vāṇmayam amṛtam*.<sup>159</sup>

The connection of *amṛta* with the moon is borne out by the statement that Soma (i. e. the moon) is called the mine of *amṛta* among the gods.<sup>160</sup> The gods had stocked *amṛta* on the Somaka mountain but Garutmat forcibly took it away from their custody for the sake of his mother.<sup>161</sup> The Aśvins cultivated certain plants on the mountain named Candra in the Plakṣa-dvīpa for obtaining *amṛta*.<sup>162</sup>

Śiva is called *amṛtapa* and *amṛtānga*.<sup>163</sup> The sea which forms the bed of Viṣṇu is called *amṛtodadhi*.<sup>164</sup> *Amṛta* also figures in the story of the "milching of the earth" as the "milk" of the earth.<sup>165</sup> With reference to the story of Śiva's name Nīlakantha we have already mentioned the story of the "churning of the ocean" for *amṛta*.

Honey : Honey is mentioned as food of the people in the Tretā age<sup>166</sup> and the people at the end of the Kali age will be living on honey, fruits and roots of trees.<sup>167</sup> We have a reference to honey of the *Kalpavṛkṣa* tree<sup>168</sup> and *Plakṣa-Khaṇḍa* is called *madhu-vaha*.<sup>169</sup> With Śiva honey was a favourite drink<sup>170</sup> and one of his sons in his future 22nd incarnation "will be" called *Madhu-piṅgākṣa*. A Brahmin guest, it is advised, should be offered honey<sup>171</sup> but a yati or bhikṣu must not even taste it.<sup>172</sup> Honey was also a good gift in śrāddha.<sup>173</sup> In the land of the Kurus there is a river named (?) *Madhumaireyavāhinī*.<sup>174</sup>

✓ *Surā* : Śiva is called *surāpa*<sup>175</sup> and *surāsavas* (i. e. wine and other intoxicants) are mentioned in connection with the Piśācas.<sup>176</sup> *Kāśya* is a kind of *madya* (wine) and hence we have the name of *Kāśyapa*, the sage, apparently because he was addicted to that kind of drink.<sup>177</sup>

156. Cf. 90. 1-20.

157. Cf. 45. 28; 38. 21, 35. 28 etc.

158. Cf. 16. 5

159. Cf. 1. 2.

160. Cf. *Devānām amṛtākara* 42. 2.

161. Cf. 49. 10.

162. Cf. No. 989. App.

163. Cf. 30. 266-7; 97. 179-80

164. Cf. 97. 22.

165. Cf. 62. 179.

166. Cf. 8. 92.

167. Cf. 58. 97; 99. 404.

168. Cf. 8. 128.

169. Cf. 46. 7.

170. Cf. 39. 266-7.

171. Cf. 79. 11-2.

172. Cf. 18. 20-1.

173. Cf. 80. 50.

174. Cf. 45. 26-8.

175. Cf. 30. 266-7.

176. Cf. 69. 287.

177. Cf. *Kāśyam madyam smṛtam vipraḥ kāśyapūnāt tu kāśyapaḥ*. 65. 116; omitted in Na.

The following references suggest that drinking of wine was condemned as a sin. A drunkard (*surāpa*) is as bad as a murderer of a Brahmin and is a great sinner.<sup>178</sup> He is not to be invited for the *śrāddha*.<sup>179</sup> In the *Dvāpara* age, people were addicted to *mada* (wine ?) and here *mada* is mentioned with murder, begging and gambling as an evil.<sup>180</sup> It is stated that in the *Kali* age (even) women will be fond of wine and similar vices.<sup>181</sup>

But a drunkard can get rid of his sin if he pays his respects to the god *Vāḍāditya*.<sup>182</sup>

Other intoxicants such as *Meḍhra* and *Dhūma* (?) are also mentioned in connection with *Śiva*.<sup>183</sup>

**Juices of Fruits :** The sugar-cane juice (*Ikṣurasa*) was a favourite drink with the people of *Harivarṣa*.<sup>184</sup> In the land of the *Kurus*, there were *Kṣīrin* trees dripping with six kinds of *rasas*, sweet as *amṛta*. The people enjoy it and live a life of 13500 years.<sup>185</sup> The people of *Hiraṇvata-varṣa* drink the juice of *Lakuca* tree which is a reservoir of six *rasas* and live a life of 12500 years.<sup>186</sup> The people of *Ramaṇaka-varṣa* enjoy the juice of the fruits of a big *Nyagrodha* tree and live for 11500 years.<sup>187</sup> The juice of *Jambu* fruits is the food for the people of *Ilāvṛta-varṣa* and hence they do not know of old age.<sup>188</sup> In the *Jambudvīpa*, the *Gandharvas*, *Devas*, *Dānavas*, etc., enjoy the same, it being sweet as *amṛta*.<sup>189</sup> *Īśvara*, son of *Brahmā*, drinks the juice of the fruits of a heavenly *Panasa* tree—a fountain of six *rasas* on the *Gandhamādana* mountain.<sup>190</sup> The *Siddhas* drink the juice of *Parūṣaka* fruits.<sup>191</sup>

**Non-vegetarian Diet :** Eating of meat is regarded as a characteristic of the *Pisācas*.<sup>192</sup> *Śiśu* is said to be greedy of both cooked and uncooked flesh<sup>193</sup> and his sons were equally fond of it.<sup>194</sup> The *Rākṣasas* and the *Bhūtas* are called flesh-eaters.<sup>195</sup> It is said that at the end of the *Kali* age people "will" live on honey, roots of trees and meat.<sup>196</sup> A *yogin*, however, was advised not to touch animal food.<sup>197</sup>

References to the use of meat in *śrāddha* occur frequently. The *Viśvadeva* offering in *śrāddha* primarily consisted of meat.<sup>198</sup> An offering of food-grains, such as *māṣa*, etc., in *śrāddha*, offers a month's satisfaction to the ancestors but the case is different in the case of offerings of the flesh of various animals. The flesh of fish offers them a satisfaction for two months, of deer, for three months, of hare, for four

178. *Mahā-pātalin* cf 82, 36-7. 179. Cf. 82, 61-3. 180. Cf. 58, 4.

181. Cf. 58, 43. 182. Cf. 60, 75. 183. Cf. 10, 49; 30, 100.

184. Cf. 46, 9. 185. Cf. 45, 14-20. 186. Cf. 45, 6-9. 187. Cf. 45, 3-5.

188. Cf. 46, 12-29. 189. Cf. 35, 30-1. 190. Cf. 43, 4-5. 191. Cf. 38, 65.

192. Cf. *Pisācāḥ piśitāṇāḥ* 9, 39; 69, 257

193. Cf. *pakvānamāmsa-lubdhā* 30, 203. 194. Cf. 10, 49.

195. Cf. 70, 63; 69, 254. 196. Cf. 58, 97. 197. Cf. 18, 20-1.

198. Cf. *bahu-māmsa-param haviḥ* 78, 5; 81, 3.

months, of *śakuna*, five months, of *Varāha*, six months, of *Chagala*, seven months, of *Pārśata*, eight months, of *Ruru* (a kind of deer), nine months, of *Gavaya*, ten months, of *Kūrma*, eleven months, of *Gavya*, for a whole year, of *Gavya* and *Vadhrīṇasa* with honey and ghee, for twelve years and of *Kṛṣṇa-cchāga*, *Godha*<sup>199</sup> and *Khāḍmayāmsa*, for ever.<sup>200</sup> Flesh of various kinds was also served in the sacrifice of *Dakṣa*.<sup>201</sup>

There is an interesting incident in the genealogical accounts regarding the use of meat in *śrāddha*. King *Ikṣvāku* once asked his son *Vikukṣi* to fetch flesh for the *śrāddha* ceremony which he intended to perform. *Vikukṣi* accordingly went to the forest and hunted many beasts (*mṛgān*) and as he was tired he ate part of the flesh particularly of *śaśa* (hare). When he returned home with the remaining portion, the king directed *Vasiṣṭha* to cleanse it (so as to make it ready for the ceremony). In the course of cleansing *Vasiṣṭha* came to know that a part of it had already been eaten by *Vikukṣi*. This meat was meant for the *śrāddha* and thus was *abhojya*. The priest informed the king of what had happened and the king being enraged at this unwise act of his son expelled him.<sup>202</sup> After recounting the tale (*ākhyāna*), that one should not eat in a manner opposed to *vidhi* (Vedic injunction) the word *māmsa* is explained thus, "He to whom the flesh which I now eat belongs, will eat the flesh which belongs to me in the next world"—so say the learned.<sup>203</sup> *Vikukṣi* is thenceforward known also as *Śaśāda* (hare-eater).<sup>204</sup>

*Prṣadhra* was a son of *Vaivasvata Manu*. He ate the flesh of the cow belonging to his preceptor *Cyavana* who, for that act of his, cursed him to be a *Śūdra*.<sup>205</sup> There is also the note-worthy instance of *Satyavrata Trīśaṅku* who was condemned by his father to live by *śva-pāka* (i. e. in the manner in which the dog-eaters—one of the outcaste tribes such as the *Cāṇḍālas*, etc.—live).

**Cannibalism:** Gods, manes, men and *Asuras* were created by *Brahmā* but the creatures who issued out of the *rajas* and *tamas* portion of his body proceeded to devour the gods, etc. These creatures are called the *Rākṣasas*.<sup>206</sup> The *Yakṣas* are described as eating human flesh and drinking human blood.<sup>207</sup> The *Pisācas*<sup>208</sup> and the *Rākṣasas*<sup>209</sup> are also similarly described. It is stated that at the end of the *Kali* age people will be following carnivorous habits.<sup>210</sup>

199. Kha, Ga, Gha and Na *Loha* 200. Cf 83, 2-12. 201. Cf 30 150-2.

202. Here an attempt is made to explain, apparently etymologically, the word *māmsa*.

203. Cf. *māmsa bhakṣayitā'nutra yasya māmsam iha admy aham etan māmsasya māmsatvam pravadamī māṃṣiṇaḥ* 204 Cf. 88 12-24

205. Cf. 85, 1-2. 206 Cf. 9 29-31. 207. Cf. 69 197.

208. Cf. 69, 114; 69 267-79 209. Cf. 70 63. 210 Cf. *Kṛavyādanah* . 58. 53.



## CHAPTER VIII

### MUSIC AND DANCING

**On Music in General :** The *Gāndharva-vidyā* (i.e. the Science of Music) is included in the list of eighteen *vidyās* such as the Vedas, their aṅgas, Mīmāṃsā, Nyāya, Dharmaśāstra, Purāṇa, Āyurveda, Dhanurveda, Gāndharva and Arthaśāstra.<sup>1</sup> We have already seen that the names Gandharva, Ṛṣabha, Śaḍja, Madhyama, Vairājaka, Niṣāda and Pañcama are mentioned as being the names of Kalpas and there they are directly associated with the *svaras* such as Gāndhāra, Ṛṣabha, Śaḍja, Madhyama or Dhaivata, (?), Snigdha (?), Niṣāda and Pañcama respectively. As to why these *svaras*, which are seven in number, should have been so associated with the corresponding names of Kalpas it is difficult to guess for the present. The connection of the Madhyama Kalpa with the Madhyama or Dhaivata *svara* should, however, be noted.<sup>2</sup> Elsewhere we find a lengthy passage<sup>3</sup> devoted entirely to the Science of Music. It has been brought in, in this Purāṇa, with reference to Revati, the daughter of king Reva, who was given in marriage to Baladeva (i.e. brother of Vāsudeva Kṛṣṇa). The whole passage appears to be a digression deliberately made and its absence in the MSS. Kha and Gha also suggests that this is so. Here we are informed about the *svara-maṇḍala* according to which there are seven *svaras*, three *grāmas*, twenty-one *mūrcchanās*, and forty-nine *tālas*.<sup>4</sup> The explanatory details about these are too technical to be noted here. We find, however, that a musician or music is tabooed in śrāddha.<sup>5</sup>

✓ **Music in Relation to Sacrifice :** The gods (?) had commenced the performance of a yajña which is famous for the fact that the seven sages had their origin from it. On this occasion all the gods, the various aṅgas of sacrifice itself and the Vedas had come to attend.<sup>6</sup> It is said that the Sāmaveda was here "attended upon" by the Gandharvas such as Viśvāvasu and others. Again, the Sāmaveda is here styled as *sarva-geya-puraḥsaraḥ* (i.e. foremost amongst those to be sung).<sup>7</sup> The Gandharvas are also stated to be chanting Sāman hymns at the sacrificial session (*satra*) performed by the sages in the Naimiṣa forest.<sup>8</sup>

We have already referred to the origin of the Sūta and Māgadha narrated in the story of Pṛthu. It is not clear whether the yajña

1. Cf. 61. 78-0

2. Cf. *ya-miṇi tu madhyamo nāma svaro daivata-pūjitaḥ*.

3. Cf. 86. 29 to the end of chapter 87.

4. Cf. 86. 36.

5. Cf. 82. 61.

6. Cf. *samāgatāḥ*.

7. Cf. *sambhṛto 'bhavat*.

8. Cf. *Sāmavedas' ca vṛttādhyāṇaḥ sarva-geyapuraḥsaraḥ Viśvāvasuddibhiḥ śārdham Gandharvaiḥ sambhṛto 'bhavat*. 65. 22-6.

9. Cf. 2. 31.

referred to there was performed by Pitāmaha (i.e. Brahmā) or by king Pr̥thu.<sup>10</sup> It is in this yajña that while the Sāman hymns were being chanted that Māgadha was born in the utensil called *srug* which was meant for the Vaiśvadeva offering.<sup>11</sup> The context suggests that the function of the Māgadha here is that of a bard in the royal court.

With reference to the narration of the progeny of Kaśyapa we are told that Prabāhī (a Dānavī?) gave birth to sons who proved to be the best singers in yajña.<sup>12</sup>

In the narration of an aśvamedha performed by Indra we have an allusion to the recitation of *āgamas* with good *svaras*.<sup>13</sup>

Music Associated with Śiva : Śiva is frequently described in the Purāṇa as being fond of music and dance.<sup>14</sup> He is mentioned as *mukha-vāditrakārin* (i.e. maker of wind-instruments)<sup>15</sup> It is in his nature to sing<sup>16</sup> and epithets associating him, in general terms, with music and dance are too numerous to be quoted here. The *Tumba-Viṇā* is his favourite instrument.<sup>17</sup> That he is called *Kinkīṇika* suggests that he used tinklets for the purposes of his dance and music.<sup>18</sup> He is also said to be using *ghaṇṭā* perhaps for the same reason.

The munis are said to worship the god Maheśvara with dance and music, with the mystic *omkāra* and *humkāra* at tirthas and temples in the north of the Himavat mountain. The Bhūtas too worship the god with dance and music playing on various instruments.<sup>19</sup> He is also attended upon by Siddhas with the accompaniment of music.<sup>20</sup>

In the story of Dakṣa-yajña we find Śiva telling his wife that even though he is not assigned any portion of offerings in sacrifices, he is prayed by the stray travellers with the *Ratham̐tara Sāman*—a hymn which is worth singing.<sup>21</sup>

Music Associated with Gandharvas, Apsarasas and Kinnaras : The Deva-Gandharvas are said to be experts in music and dance.<sup>22</sup> It is stated that the Gandharvas and the Apsarasas sing and play with musical instruments<sup>23</sup> in honour of illustrious donors in śrāddha.<sup>24</sup> Siddhas,

10. Cf. *yajñe Pitāmaha* 62, 137 Ka. apparently refers to the king Pr̥thu.

11. Cf. *Sāmageṣu tu gāyatsu srug-bhāṣe Vaiśvadevāḥ Sāmagāṇe samutpannas tamān Māgadha ucyate* . 62, 137-8 Ka omits this information.

12. Cf. *yajñe vai gāyanottamān* 68, 37.

13. Cf. *saṁpragīteṣu teṣu āgameṣu atha svavaram* : 57, 93 Ka. has *sattvaram* for *svavaram*.

14. Cf. *gītavādyarata* 30, 198 ff. 15. Cf. 30, 198 ff.

16. Cf. *gita-śīla* . 24, 142-3. 17. Cf. *Tumba-Viṇā-priya* 30, 203.

18. Cf. 24, 148. 19. 40, 24-5. 20. Cf. 24, 144.

21. Cf. *mām adhvare śaṁsitāraḥ stuvanti Ratham̐tare(ram) Sāma gāyanti geṇam* : 30, 119.

22. Cf. *ṛṣṭya-gita-viśāradāḥ.....nīpūṇā gita-vādināḥ* : 69, 44-5.

23. Cf. *vādayanti ca*. 24. Cf. 80, 10-15.

Devas and Cāraṇas also figure as singers with Gandharvas and Apsarasas.<sup>25</sup> Hundreds of the gaṇas of Kinnaras are described as being adept in dance and music.<sup>26</sup>

Musical Instruments: Vādyā, Vāditra or Vādanaka appear to be the terms signifying a musical instrument in general.<sup>27</sup> The following musical instruments have been noted in the Purāṇa and they are here arranged in an alphabetical order :

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <i>Bherī</i>                                 | The Bhūtas played upon the Bherīs to pay their respects to Śiva. <sup>28</sup>   |
| <i>Diṇḍima</i>                               | Played upon by the Bhūtas as above. <sup>29</sup>  |
| <i>Dundubhi</i>                              | Its use is associated with Śiva. <sup>30</sup> There is a mountain named Dundubhi in the Plakṣadvīpa so called because in former times the Suras beat the drums (i.e. Dundubhis) there and created a deadly noise. <sup>31</sup> |
| <i>Gomukhas</i>                              | The Bhūtas played upon the Gomukhas and paid their respects to Śiva. <sup>32</sup>   |
| <i>Jharjharas or Jhallaras</i> }             | Played by the Bhūtas as above. <sup>33</sup>   |
| <i>Mṛdaṅga</i>                               | Used by the people of the Kuru land. <sup>34</sup>   |
| <i>Mukhavāditra or Mukhamardalavāditra</i> } | Śiva is called the maker of the <i>Mukha-vāditras</i> . <sup>35</sup> The Bhūtas are said to be beating with force the <i>Mukha-mardala-vāditras</i> in the course of their worship of Śiva. <sup>36</sup>                       |
| <i>Paṇava</i>                                | Associated with the people of the Kuru land. <sup>37</sup>   |
| <i>Paṭaha</i>                                | The Bhūtas played upon the Paṭahas to pay their respects to Śiva. <sup>38</sup>  |
| <i>Raṇi-tālasita (?)</i>                     | The Bhūtas are associated with it. <sup>39</sup>   |
| <i>Śaṅkha</i>                                | The Bhūtas blow the white conches. Viṣṇu is described as holding a Śaṅkha.   |
| <i>Tumba</i>                                 | Śiva loved this instrument.  |
| <i>Veṇu</i>                                  | Its use is associated with the people of Kuru. <sup>40</sup>   |
| <i>Vīṇā</i>                                  | Śiva loved this instrument. The Bhūtas who lived with Śiva played upon this instrument. When   |

25. Cf. 81. 21-4.

26. Cf. *mṛtya-gītapragalbha* . 69. 37.

27. Cf. 81. 21-4 ; 30. 248 etc.

28. Cf. 40. 24-5.

29. Cf. 40. 24-5.

30. Cf. 55. 55.

31. Cf. *śabda-mṛtyuḥ parā tarmin Dundubhis tāḍitāḥ Suraiḥ* 49. 9.

32. Cf. 40. 24-5.

33. Cf. 40. 24-5.

34. Cf. No. 660 App.

35. Cf. 30. 198 ff.

36. Cf. *mukha-mardala-vāditrair balinām' sphaṭitais tathā* . 54. 35-7 Gha and Ns : *valgitāḥ sphaṭitaiḥ*, suggesting that they created all sorts of noises at that time.

37. Cf. No. 660 App.

38. Cf. 40. 24-5.

39. Cf. 40. 24-5.

40. Cf. No. 660 App.

Skanda was born, Sarasvatī presented him with a great Vīṇā.<sup>41</sup> It is also associated with the people of the Kuru country.<sup>42</sup>

Dancing : In references to Śiva's connection with music we have already noted his association with dance also. The munis and the Bhūtas worshipped the god Śiva with dance and music. There is a picturesque description of Virabhadra, created by Śiva to destroy the sacrifice of Dakṣa, which may be noted here : "He sometimes danced with various movements of his body and at the same time sang ( in the accompaniment of his dance )".<sup>43</sup> It should be noted that this was the manner in which Virabhadra raided the sacrifice of Dakṣa. We find a similar description of Śiva also.<sup>44</sup> He is said to have a peculiar fascination for dancing.<sup>45</sup>

Gandharvas, Apsarasas and Kinnaras also are associated with dance. The gaṇas of Apsarasas danced on the occasion of the sacrificial session performed by the sages in the Naimiṣa forest at Kurukṣetra.<sup>46</sup>

The daughter of the Vṛṣṇi-chief Bṛhaduktha, named Bṛhatī, is called *nārtakonneyī*<sup>47</sup> but it is not clear whether this reference has anything to do with dancing.<sup>48</sup>

41. Cf. *mahāsvanā mahāvīṇā* 72. 46.

42. No. 660 App.

43. Cf. *Kvaśin nṛtyati citrāṅgam kvaśid vadati sruvaram.....kvaśid gāyati*. 30. 134-5.

44. Cf. *nadate hṛdate caiva* i.e. dances and makes loud noise ? . 24. 145.

45. Cf. *nāṭyopahāra-lubdhā* 30. 199. 46. Cf. 2. 31. 47. Gha : *nārtakonneyī*.

48. *Ṣ.* 96. 246.

## CHAPTER IX

### WAR AND WEAPONS

Of War in General : In connection with the Kṣatriyas it has already been stated that war is the concern primarily of the Kṣatriyas to whom that function has been assigned by divine ordination. Of Bhāratavarṣa it is said that there the Kṣatriyas live on warfare.<sup>1</sup> The expression *Kṣātravidhi* may be noted in this connection. This entire earth of the seven *dvīpas* and surrounded by seven seas was subjugated by king Kārtavīrya Arjuna in accordance with *Kṣātra-vidhi*.<sup>2</sup> We have again an interesting reference that trade-war (*vaṇig-yuddha*) was the feature of the Dvāpara age.<sup>3</sup>

The warrior who pays his respects to king Prthu before proceeding to the scene of battle is sure to achieve victory.<sup>4</sup> It is said that by listening to the story of Nīlakantha Śiva one can aspire to display bravery in war<sup>5</sup> and such is the merit of the syllables of *om* that the brave who utter them do not think of retreat in war.<sup>6</sup> Similarly, it is stated that a gift of fuel in a śrāddha performed in winter enables the donor to be always victorious.<sup>7</sup>

We have no picturesque descriptions of any long-drawn wars such as we meet with in the epics. The Devas and Asuras fought twelve wars but the details described about them do not reflect anything on the modes of actual warfare.<sup>8</sup> We have a graphic description of the raid of Dakṣa's sacrifice carried by Vīrabhadra but that too does not lead us to infer anything. King Rāji is said to have helped the gods in their war against the Asuras but we have no details about the way in which he fought. The numerous references to the performance of *aśvamedha* suggest that wars had probably taken place before the sacrifice was actually performed but, except in the instance of Sagara's *aśvamedha*, we find none of them described, or even alluded to, in the Purāṇa and even in case of Sagara, the details are not at all connected with the practice of warfare.<sup>9</sup> We have, again, the instance of king Kuvalāśva fighting the water-demon (*udaka-Rākṣasa*) Dhundhu but the details are too fanciful to offer us any useful information.<sup>10</sup>

Some glimpses regarding the practice of warfare and facts incidental to it are, however, available from the following references :

- 
1. Cf. 45. 83.
  2. Cf. *tena iyaṃ pṛthivī Kṛtā sapta-dvīpā sapattānā saptodadhiparikṣiptā Kṣātrava vidhinā juā* 94, 14.
  3. Cf. 58. 3.      4. Cf. 63. 9.      5. Cf. 54. 106.      6. Cf. 20. 19.
  7. Cf. 80. 23-4.      8. Cf. 97. 87 ff.
  9. Cf. 88. 144. Here we find the incident of Kapila being offended by the sons of Sagara as the subject of narration,
  10. Cf. 88. 34-60.

In the battle between Bhoja Śatadhanvan and Kṛṣṇa the former was riding a mare capable of covering hundred yojanas at a stretch.<sup>11</sup> This mare had a name *Vijñāta-hṛdayā* (i.e. clever enough to read the master's mind). The animal, however, died through fatigue (and Śatadhanvan seems to have fled on foot). Kṛṣṇa, who was pursuing Śatadhanvan, came to know of the fate of the mare. He got down from the chariot and continued his pursuit on foot and afterwards killed Śatadhanvan.<sup>12</sup> We have another reference regarding Kṛṣṇa's fight against Rkṣarāja Jāmbavat. Here we do not find them using weapons and it appears that this is an instance of *muṣṭi-yuddha* which took place continuously for twenty-one days. Of king Kārtavīrya it is said that he invaded the city of Laṅkā, brought Rāvaṇa as a captive to his city of Māhiṣmatī and then set him free at the request of Pulastya.<sup>13</sup> King Sagara too vanquished his enemies and allowed them their freedom after inflicting certain indignities upon them. King Jyāmagha was victorious in a war and had brought home a girl (as a captive?).

Composition of the Army : The only information directly pertaining to the composition of the army is obtained from the description of the end of the Kali age. Here it is stated that Kalki raised an army composed of horses, elephants and chariots and with the help of armed *Vipras* carried out his mission which took him twenty years.<sup>14</sup> Of the 'future' Kalki we have practically the same information.<sup>15</sup> These references imply that employment of cavalry, elephants and chariots in war was known. Of cavalry we have no other references in the Purāṇa. Horse-riding is, however, indicated in two cases of which the one of Śatadhanvan is already noted above and the other instance is hinted at in the story of Prasena who rode on horse-back when he went out for hunting and subsequently lost his life.<sup>16</sup> There is only one additional reference regarding the employment of elephants in war wherein names of elephants employed in the war between gods and Asuras are mentioned.<sup>17</sup>

✓ We have many references, in addition to the one quoted above, in our text regarding the use of chariots in war. King Jyāmagha used a chariot in his victorious campaign.<sup>18</sup> There is a mysterious reference to the chariot of king Kārtavīrya that it appeared before him whenever he wished.<sup>19</sup> We have a history of the chariot of king Yayāti narrated in the Purāṇa. Rudra was pleased with Yayāti and gave him a shining golden chariot together with two inexhaustive quivers.

11. Cf. *tata-yojana-gāminī*. 12. Cf. 96.68-74. 13. Cf. 94.35-6.

14. Cf. *samāh sa vimśatiṃ pūrṇāḥ.....ācakarṣa sa vai senāṃ sa-vāji-ratha-kunjarāṃ pragṛhitāyudhair Viprair* . 58. 76-8.

15. Cf. 98. 104-5. 16. Cf. *sāsvam hatam Prasenaṃ tam* : 96. 39.

17. Cf. 69. 230-1. 18. Cf. 95. 30.

19. Cf. *rathaiś caiva prādurbhavati māyayā* : 94. 15.

It was with the help of this chariot that the king made conquests all over the world. It was the cherished possession of the Pauravas till the time of Janamejaya who lost it, because of a curse of Gārgya to king Vasu of the Cedi dynasty. From him it passed to Br̥hadratha and when Jarāsamdha, descendant of Br̥hadratha, was killed by Bhīma, Kṛṣṇa got it from him.<sup>20</sup> Expressions such as *rathin*,<sup>21</sup> *mahāratha*<sup>22</sup> are the epithets used for kings in the genealogical lists. Vidūratha, son of Bhajamāna is called *Rathātha mukhya* (i.e. chief amongst *rathins*).<sup>23</sup> Śiva and his sons too are called *rathin*.<sup>24</sup> In the story of the birth of Soma we find Brahmā also yoking his chariot. Along with the above epithets we find the expression *dhvajin* too used,<sup>25</sup> probably suggesting that kings had their distinctive standards or flags fixed conspicuously to their chariots.

A number of horses yoked to chariots are referred to only in one case. Brahmā's chariot was drawn by a thousand horses.<sup>26</sup> Skanda, however, had lions yoked to his chariot.<sup>27</sup> It is said that if one sees in a dream chariots yoked with bears, monkeys, donkeys or buffaloes going to the south that means a sign of impending death.<sup>28</sup>

About the size of the chariot we have almost no information. The fact that Kṛṣṇa and Balarāma were the only two persons in the chariot in which Kṛṣṇa pursued Śatadhanvan suggests that it was a small-sized vehicle.<sup>29</sup>

**Weapons :** The following is an alphabetical list of weapons compiled in the same manner as in the case of musical instruments.

- Aṅkuśa** The fact that men control elephants with an Aṅkuśa is mentioned in a simile.<sup>30</sup> (Here Aṅkuśa is not a weapon of war.)
- Asi** In his raid of the Dakṣa-yajña Virabhadra used *asī*.<sup>31</sup> Its use is also associated with Śiva<sup>32</sup> and his followers, the Bhūtas.<sup>33</sup>
- Astras** Virocana, son of Prahlāda, is said to have obtained special astras from Bhava and had thus no fear of death. But Viṣṇu entered Śakra's body and killed Virocana in the sixth Asura-Deva war.<sup>34</sup> Śukra saw the Asuras wounded by Devas with astras<sup>35</sup> and then thought of

20. Cf. 93. 18-27. 21. Cf. 96. 21; 96. 175.

22. Cf. 96. 16; 94. 48; 92. 70 *Rathivara* according Gha only : 99. 109.

23. Cf. 96. 135. 24. Cf. 97. 191; 54. 78; 10-4 etc.

25. Cf. 94. 15; 95. 30-1; 96. 121-2 etc. 26. Cf. 90. 9-11.

27. Cf. No. 469 App. 28. Cf. 19. 13-27. 29. Cf. 96. 66-73.

30. Cf. 16. 20. 31. Cf. 30. 124. 32. Cf. 101. 272. 33. Cf. 69. 253.

34. Cf. *Bhavād avadhyatām prāpya viśeṣāstrādibhis tu yaḥ saṁgrāme nihataḥ iṣṭhe Śakrāvīṣṭeṇa Viṣṇunā*. 97. 81.

35. Cf. *astrakṣatārtis*; Kha, Ga, Gha and Na read *īastra* instead.

some measure to procure victory for them.<sup>36</sup> Rudra used a great astra (*paramāstra*) in the war that broke out on the issue of the seduction of Tārā by Soma.<sup>37</sup> We have also a mention of *Vedaśiras* astra used by Vedaśiras, the 15th incarnation of Śiva.<sup>38</sup> The sons of Kārtavīrya Arjuna are called *Kṛtāstrāḥ* (i.e. accomplished in the use of astras).<sup>39</sup> King Sagara is said to have secured the *Āgneyāstra* from Jāmadagnya with which he annihilated the usurpers of his father's kingdom. This astra was terrible "even" to the Asuras.<sup>40</sup> In the description of his fight against Śatadhanvan Kṛṣṇa is called *paramāstravit*.<sup>41</sup> Cārudeṣṇa and Sāmba are called *kṛtāstrau*.<sup>42</sup>

**Bhurbhura** Associated with Śiva.<sup>43</sup>

**Cakra** It is mainly associated with Viṣṇu who meditated upon his *cakra* when he desired to kill the mother of Kāvyā (cf. *abhidhyāya tataś cakram*). The *cakra* is also mentioned as an astra with which he cut her head off.<sup>44</sup> Tvaṣṭā is said to have fashioned the *cakra* of Viṣṇu.<sup>45</sup> Śiva is called *śāyaka-cakradhārin* (i.e. he wielded the *śāyaka-cakra*).<sup>46</sup> Virabhadra too is associated with its use.<sup>47</sup>

**Carman** The sons of Nīllohita are associated with its use.<sup>48</sup>  
(i.e. Shield ?)

**Daṇḍa** The use of Daṇḍa is mainly referred to in connection with Śiva who is called *daṇḍa*, *daṇḍadhṛk*,<sup>49</sup> *muhādaṇḍa*, *daṇḍa-dhara*,<sup>50</sup> *sadaṇḍin*.<sup>51</sup> The *daṇḍa* used by Virabhadra in his raid of Dakṣa-yajña is mentioned as being sharp and shining.<sup>52</sup>

**Dhanus** The bow and the arrows :

There is a reference to *dhanurveda* as being one of the eighteen *vidyās* (or branches of knowledge). Jāmadagnya Rāma had learnt all these *Vidyās* including the *Dhanurveda*.<sup>53</sup> Satyadhṛti, son of the sage Śatānanda,

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36. Cf. 97, 101. 37. Cf. 90, 32. 38. Cf. 23, 167. 39. Cf. 94, 49.  
40. Cf. *Asuraś api duṣṭaḥ* 88, 135. 41. Cf. 96, 74. 42. Cf. 96, 188.  
43. Cf. 30, 237.  
44. Cf. *krudhāś tad aśtram āvidhya śirāś cicccheda Mādhuvaḥ* 97, 138-9.  
45. Cf. 84, 83. 46. Cf. 55, 44-5. 47. Cf. 30, 124.  
48. Cf. 10, 47 Ka has *dharmināḥ* for *sarmināḥ*. 49. Cf. 30, 251.  
50. Cf. 30, 260. 51. Cf. 30, 266 etc.  
52. Cf. *sita-śikhṇadaṇḍa* . 30, 130 Ka has *daṇḍiṣṭra* for *daṇḍa*.  
53. Cf. *sarva-vidyāntagoṣṭhī śreṣṭhāṁ dhanur-vedāya pāragam* 91, 91.



was also skilled in the Dhanurveda<sup>54</sup> and the same was the case with Pracetasas, sons of Prācīnabarhis.<sup>55</sup>

Viśvakarman is said to have been the maker of the bows of gods.<sup>56</sup> Amongst the gods, Śiva is often described as wielding the bow. His bow—the *pināka*—is many times mentioned.<sup>57</sup> He is called *ṛṣṭhadhanvin* or *sudhanvā*.<sup>58</sup> He is addressed by Dakṣa in a prayer as 'the bow amongst the *yantras*'.<sup>59</sup> This would suggest that the bow was regarded as a kind of yantra.<sup>60</sup> The bow which Śiva used in the war caused by seduction of Tārā is mentioned as *ājagava*.<sup>61</sup>

The king Pṛthu was born out of the "churning" of Vena's arm "first" with a resounding bow named *ājagava* and ( then ? ) with arrows and a shining *kavaca* ( armour ) for the purposes of self-protection.<sup>62</sup> He pursued the earth in the form of a cow with a bow and arrows.<sup>63</sup> Tying the bow-string to his bow Kārtavīrya Arjuna shot five hundred ( arrows ? ) which bewildered the whole city of Lāṅkā and Rāvaṇa became a captive.<sup>64</sup> The same king is said to have shot arrows which set fire to cities, towns and villages.<sup>65</sup> Epithets such as *dhanvin*,<sup>66</sup> *dhanurdhara*,<sup>67</sup> *uttama-dhanvin*,<sup>68</sup> etc., are frequently used in connection with kings. King Jyāmagha took up a bow and set out, in a chariot, to carve a kingdom for himself and was in the end successful.<sup>69</sup> The Devas and the Dānavas separately requested the king Rāji to take up his *vara-kārmuka* ( i.e. the best bow ) and fight for them. Rāji, however, acceded to the request of the Devas.<sup>70</sup> King Rukmakavaca had killed in former times many *dhanvins* ( wielders of bow ) and *kavacins* ( wearers of armour ) with his sharp arrows.<sup>71</sup> King Yayāti handed over his bow, arrows ( *prṣatkān* ) and his kingdom

54. Cf. 99. 203. 55. Cf. 30. 36.

56. Cf. *tridāśānām ca dhanvakṛt* : 66. 29 Ka has a different reading.

57. Cf. 25. 2 ; 24. 132 ; 54. 107-8 ; 54. 60 ; 55. 54 ; 97. 166-71 etc.

58. Cf. 97. 183-91. 59. Cf. *yantrāṇām dhanur eva ca*.

60. Cf. 30. 235. 61. Cf. 90. 31.

62. Cf. *ādyam ājagavam nāma dhanur grhya mahāvaram tarāṁśi ca bibhṛad rakṣār-tham kavacam ca mahāprabham* 62. 127. 63. 62. 151.

64. Cf. *sa vai badhvā dhanur yāna utīkṣṭah pañcabhiḥ tataiḥ Lāṅkāyām mahayitvā tu sabalaṁ Rāvaṇam balāt*.....for *dhanur yāna* Gha and Na have *dhanur-jyānam*. The word "badhvā" suggests that the bow-string was not fitted to the bow for all time : cf. 94-35.

65. Cf. 96. 184. 66. Cf. 95. 43. 67. Cf. 95. 40. 68. Cf. 92. 61.

69. Cf. 95. 30-3. 70. Cf. 92. 81-5.

71. Cf. *nihatya Rukmakavacāḥ pūrā kavacino raṇe dhanvino nīsitair bhūpair* 95. 25-6.

to his sons and retired to the peaceful life of the forest.<sup>72</sup> This shows the importance of the bow. The same king had received from the god Rudra two inexhaustible quivers.<sup>73</sup> It is said that in the Tretā age people were skilled in archery.<sup>74</sup>

We have already referred to the bow (*dhanus*) as a unit of measurement of distance and there is an interesting simile in which the bow is compared to *Om*, the arrows to *ātman*, the *brahman* being the target.<sup>75</sup>

- Gadā** Śiva is often addressed in prayers as the wielder of gadā.<sup>76</sup> Virabhadra in his raid of Dakṣa-yajña used gadā also.<sup>77</sup> It is also associated with Hari who reclines on the ocean-bed.<sup>78</sup> While Balabhadra was in Mithilā king Duryodhana went to him and learnt from him the divine art of wielding gadā.<sup>79</sup>
- Hala** Balarāma, the elder brother of Kṛṣṇa, is called *halin* and *lāṅgalin*.<sup>80</sup> *Lāṅgalin* is also a name of the twenty-second incarnation of Śiva and he used *hala* as his weapon.<sup>81</sup>
- Kavaca** Śiva is frequently called *Kavacin*.<sup>82</sup> The kavaca, which was meant for self-protection, is mentioned in connection with Akrūra or Babhrū.<sup>83</sup> There is a reference to *nārikavaca* said to have been used by king Mūlaka who was afraid of Rāma. The exact significance of this *nārikavaca* calls for an explanation.<sup>84</sup>
- Khaḍga** When Karmā heard the fatal voice foretelling his death he "drew out" his sword to kill Devakī. This suggests that the sword was sheathed.<sup>85</sup> Kārtavīrya Arjuna also used *khaḍga*.<sup>86</sup>
- Khaṭvāṅga** King Dilīpa had a son named Khatvāṅgada.<sup>87</sup> Śiva is a *Khaṭvāṅgin* (i.e. wielder of Khaṭvāṅga).<sup>88</sup>
- Kuliśa** Virabhadra used it.<sup>89</sup>
- Kuśavajra (?)** The sages killed king Purūravas with Kuśavajras.<sup>90</sup>
- Mudgara** Associated with Virabhadra<sup>91</sup> and with the Bhūtas.<sup>92</sup>

72. Cf. *dhanur nyasya pṛtatkāśi ca rūjyaścaiva sūteṣu ca* : 93. 93.

73. Cf. *aśvayau iśudhi* 93. 18. 74. Cf. *mahā-dhanur-dharāḥ* : 57. 66.

75. Cf. 20. 5. 76. Cf. 30. 237; 30. 247 etc. 77. Cf. 30. 124.

78. Cf. 24. 9 ff.; cf. also 55. 12 for Viṣṇu's association with *gadā*.

79. Cf. *gadā-tiṣṭhām tata divyām Balabhadrād avāptavān* : 96. 83.

80. Cf. 96. 64; 96. 75. 81. Cf. 23. 199. 82. Cf. 24. 159; 97. 191 etc.

83. Cf. 96. 80. 84. Cf. 88. 179.

85. Cf. *niṣkramya (śkṛṣya) khaḍgam tām kanyām kantukāmo' bhavat tadd* 96. 222.

Kha has *niṣkāśya* and Gha and Ga have *niṣkramya*.

86. Cf. 94. 21. 87. Cf. 68. 182. 88. Cf. 30. 237. 89. Cf. 30. 127.

90. Cf. 2. 22-3. 91. Cf. 30. 123. 92. Cf. 69. 253.

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <i>Nakha</i>     | The nakhas with which Narasimha killed Hiranyakāśipu were neither moist nor dry. <sup>99</sup>  |
| <i>Paratu</i>    | Vīrabhadra wielded the <i>paratu</i> in his raid of Dakṣa-yajña. <sup>100</sup> Śiva again is called <i>Khaṇḍa-paratuh</i> . <sup>101</sup>   |
| <i>Pāśa</i>      | Associated with Śiva. <sup>102</sup>  |
| <i>Paṭṭiśa</i>   | Śiva is called <i>paṭṭiśin</i> (i.e. wielder of <i>paṭṭiśa</i> ). <sup>103</sup> Elsewhere he is addressed as <i>paṭṭiśarūpadhārin</i> . <sup>104</sup>   |
| <i>Śakti</i>     | Associated with Skanda. <sup>105</sup>  |
| <i>Śankha</i>    | It is associated with Viṣṇu. Śiva too used it <sup>106</sup> and Vīrabhadra also had it in his hand when he raided the Dakṣa-yajña. <sup>107</sup>  |
| <i>Śūla</i>      | <i>Śūlin</i> (wielder of <i>śūla</i> ) is a very common attribute of Śiva. <sup>108</sup> He is again called <i>śūlapāṇin</i> , <sup>109</sup> <i>śūlahasta</i> , <sup>110</sup> <i>śūladhṛk</i> , <sup>111</sup> <i>triśūlin</i> , <sup>112</sup> <i>triśūlapāṇin</i> , <sup>113</sup> <i>triśūlāṅga</i> , <sup>114</sup> <i>sahasrodyaataśūla</i> <sup>115</sup> and <i>śvalita-śūla</i> , <sup>116</sup> etc. <i>Śūlin</i> is also a name of Śiva's twenty-fourth incarnation. <sup>117</sup> Śiva's wife too wielded the <i>śūla</i> <sup>118</sup> and the Rudras are likewise called <i>śūlahastāḥ</i> . <sup>119</sup>   |
| <i>Tigma (?)</i> | Śiva is called <i>tigmāyudhadhara</i> . <sup>120</sup>  |
| <i>Vajra</i>     | Indra, in different Manvantaras, wielded the <i>vajra</i> . <sup>121</sup> King Rāji annihilated the Dānavas in the presence of Indra, the wielder of <i>vajra</i> . <sup>122</sup> Śiva is also called <i>vajra-hasta</i> . <sup>123</sup> In the prayer to the god Śiva, Dakṣa addresses the god as <i>vajra</i> amongst <i>praharaṇas</i> (i.e. weapons or striking weapons?). That he is addressed also as <i>dhanus</i> amongst <i>yantras</i> , as previously noted, in the same context is rather interesting. Are we to suppose from this that there were two general classes of weapons, viz., the <i>yantras</i> and the <i>praharaṇas</i> ? <sup>124</sup> |
| <i>Varman</i>    | Associated with the sons of Śiva. <sup>125</sup>  |
| <i>Varūtha</i>   | Śiva is often called <i>Varūthin</i> (i.e. wearer of <i>varūtha</i> ). <sup>126</sup> His sons too are mentioned likewise. <sup>127</sup>   |

93. Cf. *anārdraśiṅkhāḥ* 67. 64-6. 94. Cf. 30. 124. 95. Cf. 25. 2.

96. Cf. 24. 159; 24. 117. 97. Cf. 24. 159.

98. Cf. 55. 45 Kha, Gha and Na have a different reading altogether.

99. Cf. 41. 38-9; 54. 24. 100. Cf. 24. 159. 101. Cf. 24. 124.

102. Cf. 26. 2; 55. 30; 54. 3; 97. 166-71; etc.

103. Cf. 69. 289; 70. 8; 24. 36 etc. 104. Cf. 25. 17. 105. Cf. 55. 54.

106. Cf. 25. 70; 25. 89. 107. Cf. 54. 107-8. 108. Cf. 24. 55.

109. Cf. 30. 215. 110. Cf. 30. 92. 111. Cf. 23. 206.

112. Cf. *śūla-dharā* : 9. 91. 113. Cf. 23. 105.

114. Cf. 24. 135; cf. also 97. 183. 115. Cf. 64. 7.

116. Cf. *samakṣaṁ vajra-pāṇināḥ* . 92. 85. 117. Cf. 54. 66. 118. Cf. 30. 235.

119. Cf. 10. 47. 120. Cf. 54. 77; 97. 191 etc. 121. Cf. 10. 47.

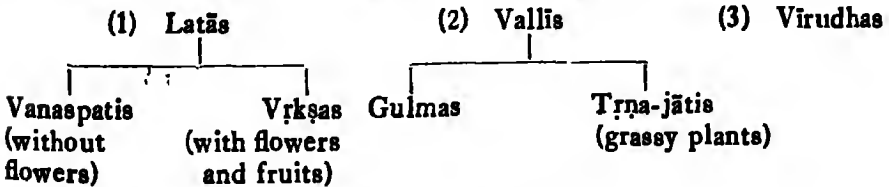
## CHAPTER X FLORA AND FAUNA

### I. THE PLANT-WORLD

**Of Plants in General :** The origin of the plant-world is connected with the birth of Soma. Elsewhere we find Soma mentioned as the consecrated lord of the vegetable kingdom.<sup>1</sup> In the Cākṣuṣa Manvantara it so came to pass that the Pracetasas were practising severe penance which brought a considerable calamity on the plant-world. The earth became bereft of trees and only a few branches of trees remained. Soma came to the rescue of the vegetable kingdom and on their behalf requested the Pracetasas to be merciful. On Soma's request the Pracetasas took Māriṣā (daughter of Soma?) as their wife and procreated Prajāpati Dakṣa who created anew the whole world.<sup>2</sup>

**Classification of Plants :** In the Tretā age the lord Svayambhū created the *grāmyāranya* and *yajñiya oṣadhis*.<sup>3</sup> It appears that here the plant-world is divided into three classes, viz., *grāmya*, *āranya* or *grāmyāranya* and *yajñiya*. We have also a list of *grāmya* and *grāmyāranya* oṣadhis but the text is so confusing that it is difficult to arrive at the point of difference between the two classes. Again we have no list of the *yajñiya* oṣadhis. The statement that *grāmyāranya* oṣadhis do not require cultivation<sup>4</sup> suggests that these plants are distinct from the *grāmya* ones on this point but the list given of them does not warrant such an inference. It should be noted that the word "oṣadhi" here signifies the plant-world in general.<sup>5</sup> In continuation of the same we find reference to *vṛkṣa*, *gulma*, *latā*, *vallī*, *vīrudh*, and *tṛṇajātis*, and these are probably the five classes under which the plant-world was known.<sup>6</sup>

In the chapter on the narration of the progeny of Kaśyapa we have it stated that Irā had three daughters, viz., Latā, Vallī and Vīrudhā. Of Latā were born the vanaspatis *without* flowers. She (again ī) gave birth to vṛkṣas *with* flowers and fruits. Vallī had her progeny in the gulmas and the tṛṇa-jātis and vīrudhas were the progeny of Vīrudhā.<sup>7</sup> This amounts to the system of classification which can be presented thus :



1. Cf. 70. 3 : 31. 38.

2. Cf. 63. 27 ff.

3. Gha and Na omit the reference to *yajñiya oṣadhis*.

4. Cf. *aphālakṣṣā oṣadhyo grāmyāranyās tu sarvataḥ* : 8. 156.

5. Cf. 8. 149-56.

6. Cf. 8. 157.

7. Cf. 69. 338-41.

*Divyauṣadhis*<sup>8</sup> and *Vanauṣadhis*<sup>9</sup> are also mentioned but they are of not much use in this connection and may be noted for the reason that the genera of the plant-world was expressed by the term "oṣadhi".

The following is the alphabetical list of plants :

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| <i>Āṭhākya</i>    | It is included in the list of <i>grāmya</i> plants. <sup>10</sup>  |
| <i>Aguru</i>      | There is a forest of aguru plants in the Kuru land. <sup>11</sup><br>Mentioned in connection with śrāddha. <sup>12</sup>   |
| <i>Akṣoṭaka</i>   | It grows on the region between the Nāga and Kapiñjāla mountains. <sup>13</sup>   |
| <i>Ambuda</i> (f) | A tree named Ambuda ( <i>Ambuda-vṛkṣa</i> ) is mentioned with reference to the end of Yuga. <sup>14</sup>  |
| <i>Amra</i>       | Mentioned as a progeny of Kaśyapa. <sup>15</sup>   |
| <i>Aṇu</i>        | Included in the list of <i>grāmya</i> plants. <sup>16</sup>  |
| <i>Āśoka</i>      | Cf. <i>Nīlāśoka</i> .  |
| <i>Aśvattha</i>   | It is called vanaspati. <sup>17</sup> On the summit of the Vipula mountain grows a great aśvattha tree which was once garlanded by Indra—a fact from which the name of Ketumāla-dvīpa is derived. <sup>18</sup> The Aśvattha trees grow at the source of the river Kāverī on the Ausīra mountain. <sup>19</sup> Its sticks are recommended for use in śraddha. <sup>20</sup> It symbolizes the spirit of kingship. <sup>21</sup> The fire which the Gandharvas presented to king Purūravas was to be prepared with the sticks of aśvattha tree; and it is said that by kindling fire in this manner a king accomplishes his cherished goal in the world of Gandharvas. <sup>22</sup> |
| <i>Atasī</i>      | Cf. <i>Badarī</i> .  |
| <i>Badarī</i>     | The forest of the following trees or plants are situated in the region between Nāga and Kapiñjāla mountains :— <i>drākṣa</i> , <i>nāga</i> , <i>kharjūra</i> , <i>nīlāśoka</i> , <i>dāḍima</i> , <i>akṣoṭaka</i> , <i>atasī</i> , <i>tilaka</i> , <i>kadalī</i> and <i>badarī</i> . <sup>23</sup> The vanquished Indra—king Rāji had deprived him of his status—requested Bṛhaspati, "Please arrange for me the <i>puroḍāśa</i> -offering, composed of <i>badarī</i> fruits only, so that I may regain the lustre I have lost." <sup>24</sup>  |

8. Cf. 47. 4; 49. 26-7; 34. 54. 9. Cf. 3. 14.

10. Cf. 8. 152 Kha and Ga *Āṭhākya*; Gha and Na omit it.

11. Cf. No. 660 App. 12. Cf. 75. 32. 13. Cf. 38. 66 ff.

14. Cf. 94. 37. 15. Cf. 69. 307-8; cf. No. 31 App. for *Amra-vana*.

16. Cf. 8. 150 omitted in Na. 17. Cf. 35. 38. 18. Cf. No. 819 App.

19. Cf. 77. 19. 20. Cf. 75. 71. 21. Cf. *aśvatthe rājya-bhāvanā* : 75. 1.

22. Cf. 91. 42-8. 23. Cf. 38. 66-70.

24. Cf. *badarī-phala-mātram vai puroḍāśam vidhātou me* : 92. 92.

- *Balvaja* It is taboo in śrāddha.<sup>25</sup>  
*Bhaṇḍī* Its flowers are taboo in śrāddha.<sup>26</sup>  
*Bilva* Mentioned as a progeny of Kaśyapa.<sup>27</sup> The following trees grow on the Auśira mountain : *pālāśa*,<sup>28</sup> *khādira*, *bilva*, *plakṣa*, *aśvattha* and *vikāṅkata*.<sup>29</sup> Again the following are the *yajñīya* trees : *samāna-plakṣa*, *nyag-rodha*, *plakṣa*, *aśvattha*, *vikāṅkata*, *udumbara*, *bilva*,<sup>30</sup> *candana*,<sup>31</sup> *sarala* (?), *devadāru*, *śāla*<sup>32</sup> and *khādira*. Their sticks (*samidh*) are good for śrāddha purposes. So should sticks of *kalkaleya* trees (?) be used.<sup>33</sup> For the description of *Bilva-vana* and *Bilva-sthālī* see No. 146-7 App. The use of a vessel (*pātra*) made of bilva wood is said to fetch wealth.<sup>34</sup>
- Campaka* Cf. No. 168 App.  
*Caṇaka* Mentioned as grāmya ośadhi.<sup>35</sup>  
*Candana* There is a forest of candana trees in the Kuru land.<sup>36</sup>  
*Dāḍima* See Badarī above.  
*Darbha* Darbha grass is used in śrāddha.<sup>37</sup> The Creator in his boar form was *dharbha-romā*.<sup>38</sup>
- Devadāru* Cf. No. 226 App.; cf. also Bilva above.  
*Drākṣa* Cf. Badarī above.  
*Durvāra* Mentioned in connection with śrāddha.<sup>39</sup>  
*Falgu* A vessel made of falgu wood is recommended for use in śrāddha for the fulfilment of all the desires.<sup>40</sup>
- Godhūma* It is a grāmya ośadhi.<sup>41</sup>  
*Grñjana* *Laṣuna*, *Grñjana*, *Palāṇḍu* and *Karambha* are taboo in śrāddha. Any food-preparation in which any of them is used should be avoided in śrāddha. Here is a reason why this is so enjoined.<sup>42</sup> Formerly, in the Deva-Asura war, Bali was wounded and the drops of blood that gushed forth from his wounds fell on the earth, and from that blood originated the above plants (?). They are again inferior on account of their smell and taste.<sup>43</sup>

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25. Cf. 75. 61.      26. Cf. 75. 34.      27. Cf. 69. 307-8.  
28. Kha, Gha and Na : *Palāśa*.      29. Cf. 77. 29.  
30. Ga, Gha and Na have *viśva*.      31. Ga, Gha and Na : *viśvacandana*.  
32. Kha : *śalmali*.      33. Cf. 75. 70-4.      34. Cf. 75. 3-4.  
35. Cf. 8. 152 omitted in Gha and Na.      4  
36. No. 660 App. cf. No. 332 App. for *candana* trees in the Gokarna forest. See also No. 437 for *candana* in Malayadvipa.  
37. Cf. 75. 17-8; 83. 79.      38. Cf. 6. 16.      39. Cf. 75. 39.      40. Cf. 75. 3.  
41. Cf. 8. 150 omitted in Na.      42. Cf. *kāraṇam cātra vakṣyate*.  
43. Cf. *hināni rasa-gandhataḥ* . 78. 12-4 Na omits all this information.

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <i>Ikṣu</i>       | The ikṣu (sugar-cane) plants grow in the <i>Plakṣa dvīpa</i> . <sup>44</sup> The Āgrayaṇa offerings to Pitṛs in the form of <i>śyāmākas</i> and <i>ikṣus</i> are particularly recommended in the śrāddha ceremony. <sup>45</sup>  |
| <i>Jambū</i>      | Cf. Nos. 436, 823 App. for the derivation of the name of Jambudvīpa.  |
| <i>Jaṇṇā</i>      | Its flowers are a taboo in śrāddha. <sup>46</sup>   |
| <i>Kadalī</i>     | Cf. Badarī above.   |
| <i>Kāḍmra</i>     | It grows in a forest in the Bhadrāsva (?) dvīpa. <sup>47</sup>  |
| <i>Kalkaleya</i>  | Cf. Bilva above.  |
| <i>Kalpavṛkṣa</i> | It grows in the Kuru land. <sup>48</sup> There is also a reference to honey extracted from this tree. <sup>49</sup>   |
| <i>Kapittha</i>   | The following trees are tabooed in śrāddha: <i>śleṣmātaka</i> , <i>nakṣamāla</i> , <i>kapittha</i> , <i>śālmali</i> , <i>nīpa</i> and <i>vibhītaka</i> . <sup>50</sup>  |
| <i>Karambha</i>   | Cf. gr̥ñjana above.   |
| <i>Kārūṣa</i>     | One of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>51</sup>  |
| <i>Kāśa</i>       | It is good for śrāddha purposes. <sup>52</sup>  |
| <i>Kāśmari</i>    | By using a vessel (pātra) made of kāśmari tree one can bring about the destruction of demons. <sup>53</sup>   |
| <i>Khādīra</i>    | Cf. Bilva above. Its sticks are used in śrāddha on the occasion of <i>pitr-tarpaṇa</i> . <sup>54</sup>  |
| <i>Kharjūra</i>   | Cf. Badarī above. Varūtrin was one of the four sons of Uśanas Śukra. Varūtrin again had four sons who were great Brahmins and offered oblations to Suras. <sup>55</sup> But they approached Manu to bring about the destruction of the Institution of Sacrifice. <sup>56</sup> Indra, however, seems to have scolded Manu who then migrated from that country (where the sons of Varūtrin lived?). <sup>57</sup> The yatis (i.e. the sons of Varūtrin) now intended to annihilate Indra who hid himself in the southern side of the <i>vedī</i> (sacrificial altar). The yatis appeared on the scene of the altar with <i>śālāvṛkṣas</i> and probably proceeded to devour the eatables lying about it, but Indra cut their heads off and the heads that fell were turned into the <i>kharjūra</i> plants. <sup>58</sup> |
| <i>Kimśuka</i>    | Cf. No. 584 App.  |

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44. Cf. 49. 28-30.      45. Cf. 78. 7-8.      46. Cf. 75. 34.      47. Cf. 43. 6.  
48. Cf. 45. 40.      49. Cf. 8. 128.      50. Cf. 75. 75-6.  
51. Cf. 8. 152 omitted in Gha and Ns.      52. Cf. 75. 41.  
53. Cf. 75. 2 omitted in Ns.      54. Cf. 74. 9.  
55. Cf. *brahmīṣṭhāḥ Sura-yājakaḥ*.      56. Cf. *ijyā-dharmavindīarthak Manuṁ stya*.  
57. Cf. *tasmiād deśād apākrmat*.      58. Cf. 65. 75-84.

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| <i>Kālatthaka</i>                                    | It is one of the grāmya oṣadhia. <sup>59</sup>  |
| <i>Kuraṇḍaka</i>                                     | Its flowers are tabooed in śrāddha. <sup>60</sup>   |
| <i>Kuśa</i>  | Cf. Nos. 673-6 App.   |
| <i>Lakuca</i>  | Its juice is a drink.   |
| <i>Latuna</i>  | Cf. Gṛñjana above.  |
| <i>Lava</i>  | The lava grass is a taboo in śrāddha. <sup>61</sup>   |
| <i>Māṣa</i>  | One of the four grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>62</sup>   |
| <i>Masūra</i>  | One of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>63</sup>  |
| <i>Mātulaṅga</i>                                     | Cf. No. 804 App.  |
| <i>Mudga</i>   | One of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>64</sup>  |
| <i>Nāga</i>  | Cf. Badarī.   |
| <i>Naktamāla</i>                                     | Cf. Kapittha.   |
| <i>Nilāsoka</i>                                      | Cf. Badarī.   |
| <i>Nīpa</i>  | Cf. Kapittha.   |
| <i>Niṣpāva</i>                                       | One of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>65</sup>  |
| <i>Nyagrodha</i>                                     | The Nyagrodha symbolizes prosperity. <sup>66</sup> We occasionally find similes such as "with arms as wide as the nyagrodha tree". <sup>67</sup> The fruits of this tree formed the food for Durgā when she practised austerities. <sup>68</sup> The people of the Ramanaka-varṣa live on the juice of these fruits. <sup>69</sup> We have also a description of a very big Nyagrodha tree on the peak of a mountain in the Ketumāla-varṣa. <sup>70</sup> The yakṣas worship the tree where Guhyaka, a yakṣa, lives. <sup>71</sup>      |
| <i>Padma, (Ambujā, Kamala, Kumuda, Utpala, etc.)</i> | This is the plant mentioned either by way of simile or symbolically. Lakes beautiful with the lotus-plants are frequently described. <sup>72</sup> In the Padmavana there is a big lotus in which the goddess Śrī resides. <sup>73</sup> In the centre of a lake in Śabala forest is a great <i>sthala-padminī</i> , which is described in detail. In its centre grows a big Nyagrodha tree, about five yojanas in extent, where the god Hari dwells. <sup>74</sup> The <i>padma-pātra</i> (i.e. a vessel made of the lotus leaves) was |

59. Cf. 8. 151; omitted in Gha and Na.

60. Cf. 75. 34.

61. Cf. 75. 51.

62. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na.

63. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na.

64. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na.

65. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na.

66. Cf. *puṣṭihāman ca Nyagrodham* 75. 2 omitted in Na.67. Cf. *nyagrodhapariṣāhāḥ* 57. 66-7; 57. 78. etc.

68. Cf. 72. 8-9.

69. Cf. 45. 3-5. 70. Cf. 35. 40-2.

71. Cf. 69. 150; cf. also *Bilva* and *Padma*.

72. Cf. 41. 14-6; 37. 2-3; 45. 33.

73. Cf. 37. 6-8.

74. Cf. 38. 51 ff.



used by the Gandharvas in the incident of the "milching" of the earth.<sup>75</sup>

Brahmā's origin from the lotus whose stalk arose from the navel of Viṣṇu is very often mentioned.<sup>76</sup> The earth is said to have a shape like that of a lotus.<sup>77</sup> A lotus-mark on an arm of a king indicates that he will be a paramount sovereign (?).<sup>78</sup>

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|-----------------|---|
| <i>Palāṇḍu</i>  | Cf. Gr̥hjana.   |
| <i>Palāśa</i>   | The Palāśa symbolises the lustre of a Brahmin. <sup>79</sup> A vessel made of palāśa wood was used by the plant-world in the incident of the "milching" of the earth. <sup>80</sup> It grows in the Campaka forest. <sup>81</sup> |
| <i>Panasa</i>   | In the Bhadrāsava(?)-dvīpa grows a heavenly Panasa tree from which six kinds of <i>rasas</i> are obtained. <sup>82</sup>  |
| <i>Pārijāta</i> | The Mahendra forest abounds in the Pārijāta plants the fragrance of whose flowers spreads over hundreds of yojanas. <sup>83</sup>   |
| <i>Parūṣaka</i> | We have a description of Parūṣaka-sthali. <sup>84</sup>   |
| <i>Pātālā</i>   | Its fruits formed the food of Durgā in the course of her penance. <sup>85</sup>   |
| <i>Paṭola</i>   | Referred to in connection with śrāddha. <sup>86</sup>   |
| <i>Plakṣa</i>   | See Bilva and cf. also Plakṣa-dvīpa Nos. 988-990 in App. The Plakṣa-tree symbolizes the lordship of the world. <sup>87</sup>  |
| <i>Priyamgu</i> | It is one of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>88</sup>  |
| <i>Puṣkara</i>  | See Puṣkara-dvīpa, Nos. 1027-30 App.  |
| <i>Śāka</i>     | See Śāka-dvīpa, Nos. 1099-1101 App.   |
| <i>Śāla</i>     | A Śāla-forest is mentioned as being situated in the Bhadrāsava(?)-dvīpa. <sup>89</sup>  |
| <i>Śālmala</i>  | See Śālmali-dvīpa, Nos. 1108-11 App.; cf. also Bilva and Kapittha.  |
| <i>Sarala</i>   | Cf. Bilva.  |
| <i>Sarjaka</i>  | Cf. Bilva. It is a taboo in śrāddha. <sup>90</sup>  |

75. Cf. 62. 187-8. 76. Cf. 24. 52; 23. 113; 54. 65; 24. 11-3; 5. 31 etc.

77. Cf. *Prthivi kṛtā kṛtā padmāhārāmayā dvijāh* : 41. 86.

78. Cf. 57. 79. 79. Cf. *pālāśam brahmavarasvaṇam* : 75. 1. 80. Cf. 62. 191.

81. Cf. 37. 18-9; cf. also Bilva. 82. Cf. 43. 4. 83. Cf. 39. 11 ff.

84. Cf. 38. 63 ff. 85. Cf. 72. 8-9. 86. Cf. 78. 9.

87. Cf. *sarva-bhūtādhipatyam ca plakṣaḥ nityam udāhṛtam* : 75. 1.

88. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na. 89. Cf. 43. 6; cf. Bilva.

90. Cf. 78. 11 Kha, Ga, Gha and Na read differently.

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| <i>Sacī(n)aka</i>  | Kha has <i>sacīnaka</i> . <sup>91</sup> It is one of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>92</sup>  |
| <i>Śleśmātaka</i>  | Cf. Kapittha. The Brahma-Rākṣasas have their dwellings on this tree. <sup>93</sup>  |
| <i>Śyāmāka</i>     | In spite of the opposition of Indra, Tvaṣṭā drank soma and was hurled down on the earth and the śyāmāka trees had their origin thence. In the Āgrayaṇa offerings to Pitṛs śyāmāka-sticks are recommended for use. <sup>94</sup> |
| <i>Udāra</i>       | It is one of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>95</sup>  |
| <i>Udumbara</i>    | Cf. Bilva. The vessels, sticks and fruits of the udumbara are very good for śrāddha purposes. <sup>96</sup> We have also a description of an Udumbara-forest. <sup>97</sup>   |
| <i>Uśtra</i>       | Mentioned with <i>Tamāla</i> in connection with śrāddha. <sup>98</sup>  |
| <i>Tāla</i>        | We have a description of Tāla-forest. <sup>99</sup>   |
| <i>Tamāla</i>      | Cf. Uśīra.  |
| <i>Tīla</i>        | It is a grāmya oṣadhi. <sup>100</sup> <i>Kṛṣṇa-tīla</i> (i.e. black variety of tīla) is also mentioned in connection with śrāddha. <sup>101</sup>   |
| <i>Tilaka</i>      | Cf. Badarī.   |
| <i>Vaṁśīkarīra</i> | It is a taboo in śrāddha. <sup>102</sup>  |
| <i>Vaṭa</i>        | Dakṣa, in his prayer to god Śiva, addresses him as <i>Vaṭa</i> . <sup>103</sup>   |
| <i>Veṇu</i>        | <i>Veṇu-pātra</i> is recommended for use in śrāddha. <sup>104</sup> We have also a Venumat mountain. <sup>105</sup>   |
| <i>Vibhītaka</i>   | Cf. Kapittha.   |
| <i>Vikāṅkata</i>   | Cf. Bilva.  |
| <i>Vrihi</i>       | One of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>106</sup>   |
| <i>Yava</i>        | One of the grāmya oṣadhis. <sup>107</sup>   |

## II. THE ANIMAL-WORLD

Of the Animal-World in General: We have seen, in connection with the Kṛta age, that the animal-kingdom did not exist then and that the people enjoyed a life of bliss.<sup>108</sup> In the further account of creation, however, it is stated that after the creation of gods, the Creator proceeded to create the animals from the various parts of his

91. Kha has *sacīnaka*. 92. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na.

93. Cf. 69. 135. 94. Cf. 78. 6-9. 95. Cf. 8. 151 omitted in Gha and Na.

96. Cf. 75. 67. 97. Cf. 38. 3 ff. 98. Cf. 75. 32. 99. Cf. 37. 23 ff.

100. Cf. 8. 150. 101. Cf. 75. 31. 102. Cf. 78. 11. 103. Cf. 30. 250.

104. Cf. 75. 5. 105. Cf. No. 1427-8 App. 106. Cf. 8. 150. 107. Cf. 8. 150.

108. The text leaves the matter here and does not elucidate, as it does in the case of the vegetable kingdom, whether the animal world made its first appearance in the Tretā age; cf. 8. 54.

body.<sup>109</sup> We have already noted above the birth of Prajāpati Dakṣa as a son of Pracetasas. Dakṣa is said to have created the animals, such as the bipeds and quadrupeds.<sup>110</sup> This was the history of animals in the Cākṣuṣa Manvantara and in this Vaivasvata Manvantara they are born as the progeny of Kāśyapa who is also the ancestor of the Devas, Asuras, Gandharvas, etc. and the plant-world.<sup>111</sup>

**Classification of Animals:** The four-fold classification, viz., *aṇḍaja*, *udbhija*, *svedaja* and *jarāyuja* is frequently alluded to in the Purāṇa. We are informed that at the sacrifice of Dakṣa all the creatures of the world such as jarāyujas, andajas, svedajas,<sup>112</sup> and udbhijjakas—were invited to attend the session.<sup>113</sup> We have also a list of svedaja creatures.<sup>114</sup>

The two-fold classification of bipeds and quadrupeds is mentioned above. Another system of classification is probably implied in the grāmya and āraṇya paśus. The grāmya (i.e. the domesticated) animals are: *go*, *aja*, *puruṣa* (man!), *meṣa*, *aśva*, *aśvatara* and *gāḍabha*. The āraṇya (i.e. wild) beasts are: *śvāpadas*, *dvi-khuras* (i.e. having two hoofs), *hastin*, *vānara*, *pakṣis*, *undakas*, and *sarī-sṛpas*.<sup>115</sup>

**Domesticated Animals:** The list of grāmya animals given above suggests that they were the domesticated animals. It should be noted that the elephant is included in the list of wild beasts and the list of domesticated animals does not mention the dog. We have, however, other references in the Purāṇas to suggest that the elephant was already domesticated. The horse and the cow are the most important of the domesticated animals. The buffalo is not to be found in the list of grāmya animals and we elsewhere find king Satyavrata hunting the Mahiṣas as if they were wild beasts but in the śrāddha chapters we find the milk of a she-buffalo as a taboo in śrāddha which suggests that the animal was domesticated.

The following is an alphabetical list of animals :

**Aja** It is born of the Creator's mouth.<sup>116</sup> It is included in the list of *grāmya-paśus*.<sup>117</sup> It is a useful animal in yajñas (as a victim)<sup>118</sup> along with cows, *mahiṣas*, *aśvas*, *hastins*, and birds.<sup>119</sup> It is said that at the end of the Kali age people will be keeping *aja*, *eḍaka*, *khara* and *uṣṭra* as their pet animals.<sup>120</sup> At the time of the birth of Skanda Kārtikeya, Vāyu gave him *mayūra* and *kukkuṭa*; lord Svayambhū gave him *aja* and Śiva gave him *meṣa* as presents.<sup>121</sup>

109. Cf. 9. 41 ff.

111. Cf. 69. 290 ff.

114. Cf. 69. 298 ff.; cf. also 30. 227.

117. Cf. 9. 46.

120. Cf. 99. 406.

110. Cf. *dvi-pado' tha catuspadah* 63. 40.

112. Gha. *sadbhedajas*. 113. Cf. 23. 101.

115. Cf. 9. 44-8.

116. Cf. 9. 43.

119. Cf. 59. 16.

121. Cf. 72. 46.

- Aśva** The horse is said to have been born of the Creator's feet.<sup>122</sup> It is included in the list of domesticated animals.<sup>123</sup> We have noted references to stables for horses and to horse-riding. Horses are good gifts for Brahmins in śrāddha<sup>124</sup> and they are regarded useful in sacrifices. Horses were yoked to chariots. A horse was one of the select jewels (*atiśaya-ratnāni*) of a cakravartin in the Tretā age.<sup>125</sup> The horses of the Gāndhāra country are said to be the best amongst the species.<sup>126</sup> The *Aśvinī-nakṣatra* is said to be favourable to the acquisition of horses.<sup>127</sup>
- Aśvatara** Included in the list of domesticated animals.<sup>128</sup>
- Avi** Its milk is a taboo in śrāddha.<sup>129</sup>
- Baka** Śyenī was a wife of Aruṇa.<sup>130</sup> She gave birth to the *Sārasas*, *Kuraras*, and *Bakas*.<sup>131</sup>
- Bhramara** The Bhramaras are the progeny of Pulaha.<sup>132</sup> In the geographical chapters we are often reminded of the existence of the *ṣaṭ-padas* or *bhr̥ngas* on the mountain-tops and in the forests where their humming sound is alluded to.<sup>133</sup>
- Biḍāla** The Bhūtas who worship Śiva on the Kailāsa mountain are said to have the faces of biḍālas.<sup>134</sup>
- Cakora** The following are said to resound the forests such as Caitraratha, Nandana, etc. with their melodious sounds; *sārikās*, *mayūras*, *cakoras*, *śukas*, *bhṛṅgarājas*, *kokilas*, *sugrīvas* and *bhramaras* etc.<sup>135</sup>
- Cakravāka** Dhṛtarāstri was a wife of Garuḍa. She gave birth to *haṁsas*, *kalahaṁsas*, *cakravākas*, and various other kinds of birds.<sup>136</sup> The attachment between the *cakravāka* and the *cakravākī* is alluded to in a simile.<sup>137</sup>
- Chagala** Recommended for the offering of its flesh in śrāddha.
- Eḍaka** Cf. Aja.
- Gardabha** Regarded as a grāmya-paśu.
- Garuḍa** Garutmat or Garuḍa had four wives, viz. Bhāṣī, Krauñcī, Śukī and Dhṛtarāstri. Śukī gave birth to sons who are the enemies of snakes who occupy various regions

122. Cf. 9. 42-4. 123. Cf. 9. 46-7. 124. Cf. 80. 15. 125. Cf. 57. 68.

126. Cf. *Gāndhāra-deśojāi cāpi turagā vājināṁ varāḥ* 99. 10.

127. Cf. 82. 14. 128. Cf. 9. 42-4. 129. Cf. 78. 17. 130. Cf. 69. 326.

131. Cf. 69. 336. 132. Cf. 70. 64

133. Cf. 36. 1-5; 34. 18; 37. 7; 37. 20; 38. 53; 38. 9-10; 39. 20; 45. 32-3;

47. 70 etc. etc.

134. Cf. 54. 40. 135. Cf. 36. 1-5. 136. Cf. 69. 337-9. 137. Cf. 45. 19.

such as the Śālmali-dvīpa, and Devakūṭa and other mountains. Following are the progeny of Bhāṣa: *ulūkas*, *kākas*, *kukkuṭas*, *mayūras*, *kalaviṅkas*, *kapotas* and *lāvātittiras*. Krauñci gave birth to the *vārdhīṇasas* and the progeny of Dhṛtarāṣṭri are already noted above.<sup>138</sup> Garuḍa as the vehicle of Viṣṇu is also mentioned.<sup>139</sup> Viṣṇu is called *garuḍa-dhvaja*<sup>140</sup> and Śiva too is mentioned as the lord of Garuḍas.<sup>141</sup> Garuḍa is the "consecrated lord" of the birds.<sup>142</sup>

Go : the cow,  
the bull, etc.

This species had its birth from the belly of the Creator<sup>143</sup> and is included in the list of domesticated animals.

The cow symbolizes the *gāyatrī* metre.<sup>144</sup> The cow that dropped from Maheśvara's mouth when Brahmā was engaged in meditation, was none else than the *gāyatrī*.<sup>145</sup> *Prakṛti* (or matter) too is called the cow.<sup>146</sup> Flying of the Earth in the form of a cow in the incident of the "milching of the earth" by Pṛthu is a good instance of symbolism.<sup>147</sup>

The cow figures considerably in ritual. Gift of cows in sacrifices is a highly commended act. The cow is included in the list of animals useful in sacrifices.

In the description of the end of the Kali age we find a reference indicating that the slaughter of cows is a sin. Again, in the same connection we are told that the number of cows "will be diminishing". But a different state of facts is reflected in the material that is available on non-vegetarian diet.

We have a solitary reference connecting Vāsudeva Kṛṣṇa with the cows. He is said to have been brought up amongst the cows<sup>148</sup> and in the chapter purporting to glorify the god Viṣṇu we find the sages asking Sūta, "How is it that the god who protects the whole world lived amongst the cows and protected them?"<sup>149</sup>

We find cows serving also as means of exchange and *gavyūti* is a unit of measurement of distance.

The bull figures in the Purāṇa mostly as a vehicle of Śiva<sup>150</sup> who is also mentioned as *vr̥ṣabha-dhvaja*

138. Cf. 19. 328-38. 139. Cf. 97. 22. 140. Cf. 24. 80. 141. Cf. 24. 108.

142. Cf. 70. 10. 143. Cf. 9. 42-4. 144. Cf. 23. 69. 145. Cf. 23. 5-12.

146. Cf. 23. 57. 147. Cf. 62. 136 ff.

148. Cf. *goṣu govindaḥ samvṛddhaḥ* 96. 218.

149. Cf. *gopāyanam yaḥ kṛute jagatām sārvalaukikam sa katham gām gato viṣṇur gopatuam akaroṭ prabhuk* . 97. 12.

150. Cf. 30. 261; 54. 107-8; 55. 54 etc.

(i.e. having the Bull standard).<sup>151</sup> Śiva himself is addressed as Bull by Dakṣa in his prayer to the god.<sup>152</sup> The bull is the "consecrated lord" of the quadrupeds.<sup>153</sup>

*Godhā* Already referred to as good for offering its flesh in śrāddha.

*Golāṅgūlas* Cf. Vānaras.

*Gr̥dhra* The gr̥dhras preyed upon the spoils of Dakṣa's sacrifice.<sup>154</sup> If a *kāka*, *kapota*, *gr̥dhra* or any other bird that has fondness for the dead bodies touches the head of a person, he is sure to die within a period of six months.<sup>155</sup> The Bhūtas are said to have the faces of gr̥dhras.<sup>156</sup>

*Haṁsa* Cf. Cakravāka. On the Devakūṭa mountain there are many haṁsas.<sup>157</sup>

*Hariṇa* Mṛgī was a wife of Pulaha. Her progeny are the *hariṇas*, *mṛgas*, *śaśas*, *nyan̄kus*, *śarabhas*, *rurus* and *pṛśatas*. (Most of these are the different varieties of the species of deer.)<sup>158</sup>

*Hastin* (*Nāga*, *Gaja*, *Dantin*, *Dvirada*, *Kuñjara*, *Karin*, *Dvipa*, *Mātāṅga*, etc.): Irāvati was a wife of Pulaha. Her son was Airāvata, the vehicle of Indra. He was the first king of the elephants.<sup>159</sup> The various words for elephants are also explained in this account.<sup>160</sup> The word *sāmaja*, however, is interesting as it connects the animal with the Sāmaveda.<sup>161</sup> In the account of cosmology we find them described as being born of the Creator's feet.<sup>162</sup> It appears that "gaja" signified the class of the species born of domesticated parents.<sup>163</sup>

We have seen above that the elephant is included in the list of wild beasts (*āraṇyapaśus*). But there are numerous references to suggest that they were tamed. We have it in a simile that when a lion or an elephant is captured and made to serve he becomes *mṛdu* (i.e. tame).<sup>164</sup> A reference to stables for elephants had already been made and elephants are also

151. Cf. 30. 180; 24. 106; 24. 60 etc.

152. Cf. 30. 267-8.

153. Cf. 70. 10.

154. Cf. 30. 170.

155. Cf. 19. 6.

156. Cf. 40. 21-2.

157. Cf. 41. 70.

158. Cf. 69. 206.

159. Cf. *prathamah sa matāṅgaḍṭ* : 69. 211.

160. Cf. 69. 231-4.

161. Cf. *sāmajaḥ sāma-jātatoḍḍ* : 69. 244.

162. Cf. 9. 42-4.

163. Cf. *narair baddhāḥ kulo teṣāṁ jāyante vikṛtā gajāḥ* : 69. 224.

164. Cf. 10. 83.

recommended as good gifts to Brahmins in śrāddha.<sup>165</sup> The elephant is also a *yajñiya* animal (cf. *Aja*). Making of gifts under the shadow of an elephant is considered to be meritorious.<sup>166</sup> It is already seen that elephants were employed in war.

|                                       |   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Kāka</i>                           | Cf. Garuḍa and Grdhra.  |
| <i>Kalaviṅka</i>                      | Cf. Garuḍa and Cakora.  |
| <i>Kapota</i>                         | Cf. Grdhra and Garuḍa. Śiva is addressed as <i>Kapota</i> in a prayer by Dakṣa. <sup>167</sup>  |
| <i>Kāraṇḍa</i>                        | On the Devakūṭa mountain there are many Kāraṇḍas. <sup>168</sup>  |
| <i>Khaḍga</i>                         | Mṛgamandā was a wife of Pulaha. Her progeny are the <i>gavayas</i> , <i>mahiṣas</i> , <i>uṣṭras</i> , <i>varāhas</i> , <i>khaḍgas</i> and <i>gauramukhas</i> . <sup>169</sup>   |
| <i>Khadyota</i>                       | Its flight in the night-time is a matter for simile. <sup>170</sup>   |
| <i>Khara</i>                          | Cf. <i>Aja</i> .  |
| <i>Kiṣakas</i> or<br><i>Pipīlakas</i> | There is a small passage in the account of the progeny of Kaśyapa on the insect-world. The insects are supposed to be <i>svedaja</i> creatures (i. e. those born of perspiration, heat or moisture). All the names of these insects are not enumerated here as the passage is confusing to some extent. Some of them may be mentioned, viz., <i>yūkas</i> , <sup>171</sup> <i>minakas</i> , <i>tittiras</i> , <i>simhalas</i> , <i>romalas</i> , <i>picchalas</i> , <i>nīlamakṣikas</i> , <i>sarpas</i> , <i>vṛścikas</i> , etc. Some of these are supposed to have their origin from foodgrains such as <i>mudga</i> , <i>taṇḍula</i> , <i>māṣa</i> , etc. and from fruits such as <i>panasa</i> , etc. <sup>172</sup> |
| <i>Kokila</i>                         | Cf. Cakora.   |
| <i>Krauñca</i>                        | Cf. Garuḍa. Kārtikeya is called the destroyer of <i>krauñcas</i> . <sup>173</sup>   |
| <i>Kukkuṭa</i>                        | Cf. Garuḍa and <i>Aja</i> . It is a taboo in śrāddha. <sup>174</sup>  |
| <i>Kumbhāra</i>                       | He who recites the names of Devī (i. e. Śiva's wife) is assured protection from Kumbhīras and Vyāghras. <sup>175</sup>  |
| <i>Kuraras</i>                        | They are the progeny of Śyenī, the wife of Aruṇa. <sup>176</sup>  |
| <i>Kūrma</i>                          | Its utility for offering its flesh in śrāddha has already been referred to. Its contraction of limbs is mentioned as a simile. <sup>177</sup>   |
| <i>Lāvaṭittiras</i>                   | Cf. Garuḍa.   |

165. Cf. 80. 15. 166. Cf. 80. 45. 167. Cf. 30. 241.

168. Cf. 41. 70. 169. Gha *Gauramṛgas*. Cf. 69. 207.

170. Cf. 6. 7; 8. 4; 59. 207. 171. Omitted in Ka and Ga.

172. Cf. 69. 298 ff. 173. Cf. 54. 19-21. 174. Cf. 78. 38-40.

175. Cf. 9. 96. 176. Cf. 69. 336. 177. Cf. *kūrmo'ngānīva* : 11. 59; 93. 94.

- Mahiṣa** Cf. Aja and Khaḍga.
- Matsya** The utility of its flesh in śrāddha has been referred to already.
- Mayūra** Cf. Aja, Cakora and Garuḍa. It is also a vehicle of Kārtikeya.<sup>178</sup>
- Meṣa** It is included in the list of grāmya paśus. Meṣas as pets of Urvaśī have been mentioned before. See also Aja.
- Mūṣika** The mūṣikas "will be" a menace to the people at the end of the Kali age.<sup>179</sup>
- Nāgas and Sarpas** Brahmā was practising severe penance as a result of which sweat came forth from his body which gave rise to the serpent world. These *sarpas* had marks of *svastika* on them. Brahmā did not like this creation.<sup>180</sup> They are included in the insect-world which had its origin from perspiration, heat or moisture.<sup>181</sup> Vāsuki or Takṣaka is mentioned as their chief or consecrated lord.<sup>182</sup> Śiva too is their lord.<sup>183</sup> The lord of serpents who lives on the Devakūta mountain has a hundred hoods and is marked with the cakra of Viṣṇu.<sup>184</sup> It is said that at the end of the Kali age they "will be" a menace to the people.<sup>185</sup>
- Nyaṅku** Cf. Hariṇa.
- Pārṣata** The utility of its flesh in śrāddha has been noted.
- Prṣata** Cf. Hariṇa.
- Ruru** Cf. Hariṇa.
- Śakuni** The utility of its flesh in śrāddha has already been mentioned. Śiva is addressed in a prayer as *Śakuni*.<sup>186</sup>
- Śarabha** Cf. Hariṇa. Śiva is addressed in prayer as *Śarabha*.<sup>187</sup> They are supposed to be born of the Creator's feet.<sup>188</sup>
- Sārikā** Cf. Cakora.
- Sārasas** Cf. Baka.
- Śaśa** Cf. Hariṇa. The utility of its flesh in śrāddha has been noted already. *Śaśāda* (hare-eater) was a nickname of Vikukṣi, son of king Ikṣvāku.
- Simha, Sārdūla** The lion is often mentioned in the Purāṇa in the similes for expressing strength<sup>189</sup> and well-developed shoulders.<sup>190</sup> This beast is a terror to *mṛgas* (i. e.

178. Cf. 54. 19-21.

179. Cf. 58. 61.

180. Cf. 25. 64 ff.

181. Cf. *Kṛṣṇas*.

182. Cf. 70. 10-3.

183. Cf. 24. 109.

184. Cf. 41. 73 ; cf. also Garuḍa. 185. Cf. 58. 61. 186. Cf. 30. 260.

187. Cf. 97. 180.

188. Cf. 9. 42-4.

189. Cf. 93. 68 ; 88. 165 ; 92. 74.

190. \*Cf. *simha-śandha* : 88. 192.



other beasts).<sup>191</sup> Prasena was killed by a lion when he was on a hunting excursion in a forest but the lion in turn was killed by Jāmbavat (the lord of Rkṣa—i. e. Rkṣa mountain).<sup>192</sup> The lion is the "consecrated lord" of beasts.<sup>193</sup>

There is a reference to the caging of lions. Virabhadra rushed towards the scene of Dakṣa-yajña as a lion let loose from a cage.<sup>194</sup> Cf. also Hastin regarding taming of lions. We have also an incarnation of Narasimha (Man-lion) of Viṣṇu who killed Hiranyakāśipu with *nakhas* (or nails).

*Suka*

Cf. Cakra.

*Śoḍ*

It was a taboo in śrāddha.<sup>195</sup>

*Tarakṣu*

Cf. Vānara.

*Ulūkas*

Cf. Garuḍa.

*Uṣṭra*

Cf. Khaḍga. They are supposed to be born of the Creator's feet.<sup>196</sup> The milk of the uṣṭra is a taboo in śrāddha.<sup>197</sup>

*Vānaras*

Haribhadra was a wife of Pulaha. Her progeny are the *Goldṅgūlas*, *tarakṣus*, *vānaras* and *vyāghras*.<sup>198</sup>

*Varāha*

Cf. Khaḍga. The utility of its flesh in śrāddha is already referred to. We also have a reference to the Varāha-incarnation of Viṣṇu.

*Vārḍhiṇasas*

Cf. Baka.

*Vyāghra*

Cf. Vānara and Kumbhīra. Garments of tiger-skin were made.

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191. Cf. 54, 55.      192. Cf. 96, 33-4.      193. Cf. 70, 10-3.  
 194. Cf. *bandhāt pramukṣena śikhena iva* : 30, 139.      195. Cf. 78, 38-40.  
 196. Cf. 9, 42-4.      197. Cf. 78, 17.      198. Cf. 69, 208.

## PART II

### CHAPTER I

### SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

#### I. SOCIAL THEORY

**Cosmic Origin :** The earliest evidence for the theory of society of four varṇas is found in the famous Hymn of Man occurring in the tenth Maṇḍala of the ṚV. It is here said that Puruṣa's mouth became the Brahmin, his arms the Rājanya (warrior), his thighs the Vaiśya and his feet the Śūdra.<sup>1</sup> But this hymn is generally regarded as "one of the very latest poems of the Ṛgvedic age ; for it presupposes a knowledge of the three oldest Vedas."<sup>2</sup> The Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa actually refers to the four varṇas and it has been conceded that it was a fact that the four varṇas existed in the days of the Brāhmaṇas which do not merely speak of "a theory which was to be striven for as an ideal". Conditions seem to have been considerably changed at the time of the Smṛti-writers who often seem to try to approximate the state of society existing in their times to the varṇas of the older literature which they held were of hoary antiquity.<sup>3</sup>

The contents of the Vāyu Purāṇa at once remind us of the Puruṣa Sūkta, the only difference being that it has Kṣatriya instead of the Rājanya of the latter. The stanza occurs in the Purāṇa at two places in the cosmological account which is greatly influenced by the Sāṃkhya ideas—a fact which, in addition to the mention of Ksatriya for Rājanya referred to above, suggests that this Vāyu-material is considerably later than that of the Puruṣa Sūkta of the ṚV., if not coeval in point of time with the works of the Smṛti-writers.

**Mythic Origin :** The statement that Śiva is the originator of the varṇāśrama is merely an eulogy of the god by Dakṣa and may be dismissed altogether in connection with this enquiry. With regard to Manu, however, it may be stated here that even in the age of the ṚV. he was regarded as the "first sacrificer and the ancestor of the human race. The Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa makes Manu play the part of a Noah in the history of human descent."<sup>4</sup>

It is not clear whether our Purāṇa refers to this Manu. It does not even make an allusion to the story of the flood of the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa. The reference to Smārta-dharma as being stated by Svāyam-bhuva Manu and the association of Manu with the sages suggest that

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1. MAC. *HSL*, 133. 2. *Ibid.* 3. KANE, II, 47. 4. MAC. *HSL*, 108.

we have here something to do with the author of the so-called Mānava Dharma-śāstra<sup>5</sup> though it is inopportune to guess more about that for the present.

Some observations may be made regarding the connection of Bali with the foundation of varṇāśrama. We know from the political history of the Purāṇas that this king Bali belonged to the Ānava branch of the Ailas and had five sons after whom the five kingdoms of the east, viz., Aṅga, Vaṅga, Kāliṅga, Puṇḍra and Suhma were so called.<sup>6</sup> If any historical significance is attached to the reference of the Vāyu under discussion we may be allowed to infer that this king Bali was regarded by the Purāṇa-tradition to be the propagator of Aryan culture in the eastern countries which we know did not come under the pale of Aryanism quite as late as the period of the early Dharma-sūtras and grammatical treatises.<sup>7</sup>

Varna, Āśrama and Dharma: "The word āśrama does not occur in the Saṁhitās or Brāhmaṇas"<sup>8</sup> but this does not mean that the stages of life indicated by this word were unknown in the Vedic period. Perhaps, the earliest reference to the four āśramas, though somewhat obscure, occurs in the Ait. Br. 33.<sup>9</sup> A much clearer reference to the three āśramas is found in the Ch. Up. II. 23. 1. But still one cannot say whether the four āśramas were certainly known in the time of the earliest Upanisads which, however, frequently allude to the three āśramas.<sup>10</sup> The Ch. Up. clearly relates the term āśrama to dharma though its connection with varṇa is not definitely indicated.<sup>11</sup> The Jātakas, however, are aware of the four āśramas, especially of a Brahmin, though the incidents found therein do not necessarily presuppose a schematic partition of the course of life of a Brahmin.<sup>12</sup> We are not, for the present, in a position to take it for granted that in these works the āśramas are so linked up with the varṇas and dharma as to suggest the evolution of a compact social theory. It is, however, in the Arthaśāstra of Kautilya that we get a definite and clear evidence of the blending together of these three concepts<sup>13</sup>—viz., those represented by the three terms varṇa, āśrama and dharma—so as to make a coherent whole. Even the earliest Dharma-sūtras refer to the four āśramas and in the whole range of the Dharma-śāstra literature these three concepts receive elaborate treatment and are closely inter-related.<sup>14</sup> Thus we can safely assign the highest antiquity of the social theory of varṇāśrama-dharma to the age of Kautilya.

5. SBE, 25, Introduction, p. xx ff. 6. AIHT, 109.

7. History of Bengal, Ed by R. C. MUJUMDAR, 1. 36-7. 8. KANE, II, 418.

9. Ibid. 420. 10. Ibid. 422. 11. Ibid. 420. 12. FICK, 193 ff.

13. Cf. Caturvāṇa varṇānām āśramāṇām ca sva-dharma-sthāpana... etc. p. 7.

14. Vide KANE, op. cit. 416 and 1 ff.

Out of the three concepts of varṇa, āśrama and dharma, the Vāyu appears to put more emphasis on dharma and certainly presupposes the existence of some works on the dharma-śāstra. The fact that it refers to the smārta-dharma as being primarily concerned with the varṇāśrama suggests a knowledge of some existing Smṛti-works of which the existence of one, namely the Manu Smṛti, may be accounted for by the statement that the Smārta-dharma, as based on tradition, is told by Svāyamībhūva Manu.

It should be noted that the term *śiṣṭācāra* is mentioned, in a technical sense, as an important source of law in many of the Dharma-śāstra works from the earliest times of Vasiṣṭha and Baudhāyana.<sup>15</sup> As to the exact nature of the authority of *śiṣṭācāra* and its relation to the authority of the Śruti and Smṛti, there is some diversity of opinion amongst the ancient law-givers and their commentators<sup>16</sup> and our Purāṇa is apparently making here a reference to those of them who placed the authority of the *śiṣṭācāra* on the same footing as that of the Vedas and the Smṛtis.

Varna and Varna-samkara: So far as our knowledge goes the term *varṇa-samkara*, in its technical aspect, does not occur in the Vedic literature. The Sāmavidhāna Brāhmaṇa (3.4.2) and the Varṇa-Brāhmaṇa do mention the word 'samkara' but not in connection with 'varṇa'. 'Though many instances of inter-caste marriages can be cited from the Vedic literature,'<sup>17</sup> still we find there the rules regarding connubium appearing in a stage of development.<sup>18</sup> As regards the rules of commensality, however, there are no traces in the Vedas. It is in the Jātakas that we, for the first time, become aware of the ideas implicit in the varṇa-samkara though we are not certain for the present whether these works refer to the word 'varṇasamkara' in this connection.<sup>19</sup> In them the rules both as regards connubium and commensality appear considerably developed<sup>20</sup> and the main force of their condemnation in this respect is laid against the Cāṇḍālas, the Pukkusas and similar despised classes existing in their time.<sup>21</sup> Kautilya mentions 'samkara' in connection with 'varṇa' only once where he says that observance of one's own dharma leads one to heaven and that its transgression, due to samkara, amounts to the destruction of the world.<sup>22</sup> He further calls upon the sovereign not to swerve from the path of dharma. In the Dharma-śāstra works the term 'varṇa-samkara' occurs frequently in connection with castes and sub-castes.<sup>23</sup> Baudhāyana mentions the Vṛātyas as being the products of varṇa-samkara<sup>24</sup> and Manu (X, 1 ff.) enumerates the various samkara-jātis that have their

15. N. C. SENA GUPTA, *Sources of Law and Society in Ancient India*, 68 ff.

16. *Ibid.* 71. 17. KANE, II. 447 ff. 18. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 257 ff.

19. VIDE FICK, 31 ff. 20. RHYS DAVIDS, 52 ff. 21. FICK, 27 ff.

22. p. 8. cf. *sva-dharmas svargāyānantiyā ca tasya atihraṃśo lokas samkarād uccidhyetā*, 23. KANE, 2. 59. 24. *Ibid.* 60.

origin in the *anuloma* kind of marriage. The Dharma-śāstra works generally relate the term varṇa-saṁkara to the regulation of the relations of the four varṇas *inter se* particularly on the point of marriage. These works lay such a great emphasis on the prevention of varṇa-saṁkara that they consider it one of the principal duties of the king to see to the matter.<sup>25</sup> It is on account of this that so early as in the first centuries of the Christian era we see that the Sātavāhana king Vāsiṭhīputa Siri Puṣumāyi is extolled for having prevented the admixture of the four varṇas.<sup>26</sup>

The Vāyu also speaks in very strong terms against the prevalence of varṇa-saṁkara almost in the spirit of the Dharma-śāstra works. Its reference to the Ājīvas and Mlecchas as products of varṇa-saṁkara is more than interesting; the same being the implications of its references to Pāṇḍas, Yavanas, Śakas, etc. in connection with the society supposed to be existing at the end of the Kali age. In order to avoid repetition we may reserve a chronological discussion of these references for a later stage of our investigation.

Varṇāśrama and Vārtā: The term 'vārtā', technically so called, does not occur in the Vedic literature. The earliest reference to 'vārtā' is found in the Arthaśāstra of Kautilya who calls it a branch of learning and quotes his predecessors on that point.<sup>27</sup> According to him vārtā deals with *artha* and *anartha*; and the study of dharma, varṇa and āśrama comes under that branch of learning called the *trayi* (i. e. the Vedas), while agriculture, cattle-breeding and trade, etc., come under the vārtā. The Manu-Smṛti also mentions vārtā as one of its four vidyās<sup>28</sup> and it elsewhere states that it is the function of a Vaiśya.<sup>29</sup> This would suggest that the vārtā of Kautilya or Manu signified, more or less, something like our science of economics. But its other sense as 'a means of subsistence' occurs in the Arthaśāstra which mentions "a saṁgha subsisting on the profession of arms."<sup>30</sup> Unfortunately the term vārtā denoting its technical sense is nowhere traceable in later literature though we find it occasionally mentioned in its literal sense of 'occupation'.<sup>31</sup>

There are many references to 'vārtā' in the Vāyu. At two places vārtā is directly connected with the origin of the varṇāśrama which in the sequence of creation takes place after the creation of the vārtās. Again the origin of vārtā in the Tretā age and its destruction at the end of Kali coincide with the similar history of the varṇāśrama. Of such views we are not aware either from Kautilya or from Manu. Was there any school or theory which regarded the varṇas purely from the occupa-

25. KANE, 2 60.

26. *Ibid.* 61.

27. Vide p. 6 ff.

28. Cf. VII. 43.

29. Cf. X. 80.

30. See p. 376, cf. *vārtā śastropajivinaḥ*.

31. See D. R. BHANDARKAR, *Some Aspects of Ancient Hindu Polity*, 13.

tional point of view? If there was any, excepting the one probably reflected in our text, we have no knowledge of it so far.

We have at one place a reference to the trayī, vārtā, daṇḍa-nīti, etc. and we are here reminded of vārtā as a branch of learning mentioned by Kauṭilya and Manu. But the Purāṇa does not mention vidyā in this connection and adds *ijyā* and *varṇāśrama* which are not included as a vidyā by Kauṭilya and which come under the trayī in the four vidyās of Manu. D. R. BHANDARKAR informs us that after the fourth century A.D. we hear nothing of vārtā as a vidyā,<sup>32</sup> a conclusion which may be noted here as a chronological pointer to this material of the Purāṇa.

## II. THE BRAHMINS

The Brahmin's Claim for Superiority: The superiority of the Brahmin is recognized from the time of the RV. onwards. The claim to be a god, however, is not found in the RV.; but in later Vedic literature such claims are many times expressed.<sup>33</sup> The Vedic texts are full of references to civilities to be paid to the Brahmins. In the Jātakas too similar claims are found to have been made by the Brāhmins,<sup>34</sup> though the Buddhist monks did not regard such claims with approval. The ideas of the sacredness and superiority of the Brahmins were carried forward and further emphasized by the Dharma-śāstra works some of which assign to them a status superior even to that of the gods. Manu tells us that a Brahmin, learned or not, is a deity.<sup>35</sup> The Mbh. also indulges in the expression of similar sentiments.<sup>36</sup>

Such theoretical claims that a Brahmin is a god or that he is superior even to gods are not found in the Vāyu. This is more to be noted when we are told that "most exaggerated and hyperbolical descriptions of the greatness of the Brāhmaṇas are sown broadcast over all the Smrtis and the Purāṇas."<sup>37</sup> Certainly our Purāṇa is an exception to the above proposition; for nowhere does it refer *explicitly* to the sanctity or to the extravagant claim for superiority of a Brahmin. It no doubt shows us the Brahmins as a respectable class of people whom it often associates with gods but still it does not make such a straightforward claim for them as we find in the Smrtis and the Mbh. The same can be said with regard to the incident which led to the origin of the avatāras of Viṣṇu, for in the narration of this incident we nowhere find a definite assertion that a Brahmin as such is a deity and can be superior even to the gods.

Kinds of Sages: We have no information for the present about the different theoretical gradations (and their characteristics) amongst

32. *Ibid.*

33. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 80 ff., cf also KEITH, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, HOS. 32. 454 ff.

34. FICK, 30-1, and RHYS DAVIDS, 60-1. 35. KANE, 2. 135.

36. *Ibid.* 136. 37. *Ibid.* 135.

sages mentioned in the Vedas and in other ancient works. The mind-born sons of the Creator are not referred to in the RV. which however mentions the seven sages denoting the great Bear.<sup>38</sup> In the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa we find a reference to the region between the sages and the setting of the Sun.<sup>39</sup> In the same work occurs the legend of the Kṛttikās and the seven sages.<sup>40</sup> Thus in the Vedic literature we find the saptarṣis associated with the astronomical sphere. The Gītā, however, mentions the seven mind-born sages<sup>41</sup> and the seven sages in heaven.<sup>42</sup> Again in the Mbh. we find the saptarṣis "sometimes confounded with the seven mind-born sons of Brahmā".<sup>43</sup> The Brhat-samhitā has a separate chapter on the saptarṣis (of astronomy) but it is silent on their "mind-born" characteristic. Varāhamihira gives their names thus: Marīci, Vasiṣṭha, Aṅgiras, Atri, Pulastya, Pulaha and Kratu.<sup>44</sup> The omission of Bhṛgu, whose name commonly occurs in the Vāyu lists of seven sages, is interesting.

In the Vāyu these seven sages are stripped of their astronomical attributes and they frequently figure as the mind-born sons of Brahmā, the Creator. But the fact that the *pralaya* does not affect them reminds us of their association with the *Ursa major*. They are, however, more than humanized when they, as maharṣis, hold anti-ritual ideas and think low of the sacrifice in which killing of animals invites their re-proof. Our Purāṇa here merely reflects the spirit of the great Epic.

Brahmarṣis, Devarṣis and Rājarṣis: Such a gradation amongst sages is not observable in the Vedic literature. The term *rājanyarṣi* appears in the Pañcaviṃśa-Brāhmaṇa<sup>45</sup> and the Grhya-sūtras mention the worship of the Brahmarṣis.<sup>46</sup> According to Manu the Madhya-deśa (middle-country) is the land of the Brahmarṣis.<sup>47</sup> The Mbh. is replete with references to Brahmarṣis, Devarṣis and Rājarṣis<sup>48</sup> and the Gītā mentions by way of analogy that Nārada is the chief of the Devarṣis.<sup>49</sup>

The Vāyu information suggests that these three were the commonly recognized gradations amongst the sages with the distinctive features of their own. For want of similar information from other sources we may leave the matter as it is for the present.

✓ The Munis: The powers and practices of munis are found described in the RV. according to which they were probably a set of wandering ascetics devoted to a primitive cult of yoga.<sup>50</sup> At one place in that Veda we find Indra mentioned as a friend of munis.<sup>51</sup> "Transported by divine impulse, they pursued the course of the winds; they could fly through the air and perceive all forms; they were the friends

38. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 117.

41. *SBE*, 8, 86.

44. Edited by KEARN, 85 ff.

47. Cf. II 19.

50. *Rudra-Siva*, 50.

39. *SBE*, 44, 425.

42. *SBE*, 8, 281.

45. Cf. xii, 12 6.

48. Cf. SÖRENSEN, 164, 237.

51. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 167-8.

40. *SBE*, 12, 282 ff.

43. SÖRENSEN, 620.

46. *SBE*, 29, 141.

49. *SBE*, 8, 89.

of Gods and moved along the paths of the Apsaras, the Gandharvas and wild animals; and broke the unbending things by virtue of the cup of poison which they drank in the company of Rudra."<sup>52</sup> But the muni of the RV. is more of the medicine-man than a sage. In the Upaniṣads he is described as a sage steeped in the problem of the Absolute. He was probably not approved by the priests who followed the ritual and whose views were essentially different from the ideals of a muni which are superior to earthly considerations such as desire for children and dakṣiṇā.<sup>53</sup> A quaint reference to Vaikhānasa-munis is found in the Tāṇḍya-Mahābrāhmaṇa (xiv, 4. 7) which mentions Munimarāṇa as a place where they were killed.<sup>54</sup> The muni also figures in the Buddhist canonical works which regarded him as a respectable personage.<sup>55</sup> Buddha himself gave a definition of a muni<sup>56</sup> and the Sutta-nipāta refers to a state of muni (cf. *mauneya*).<sup>57</sup> In the Jātakas the homeless ascetics are often termed as *samaṇas* and probably they are the same as the munis.<sup>58</sup>

The Vāyu also credits the munis with magic powers as we find them in the Ṛgveda. The munis of our Purāṇa do not appear to be mere ṛṣis and are sometimes distinguished from them. Their connection with yatis and bhikṣus and their adherence to non-violence probably reminds us of the doctrines of the Buddhist and Jain faiths. But of far more importance is their association with Śiva who himself is called muni many times. The fact that even Kṣatriyas are mentioned as munis suggests that they represent an order of ascetics which was open to other castes than that of the Brahmins.

**Brahmins and the Ritual.** The Brahmin as an officiating priest at sacrifices figures from the RV. onwards. It is doubtful whether this was an exclusive privilege of the Brahmins in the ancient Vedic days for the RV. mentions Devāpi as a purohita of Śantanu and according to the Nirukta at least we may admit that a Kṣatriya could officiate as a priest in the Vedic times.<sup>59</sup> It was in the days of the Brāhmaṇas that the Institution of Sacrifice had developed beyond all proportions and we find in those works the elaborate nature of the ritual functions of the Brahmins, who, it is averred, could even control the fortune of the gods, by virtue of their correct knowledge of the ritual.<sup>60</sup> In the Upaniṣads, however, there is a definite protest against the external sacerdotalism of the Brāhmaṇas. They re-interpret sacrifices and try to allegorise them and sometimes even go to the extreme of ridiculing their superficial character.<sup>61</sup> But the sacrificial religion was still the

52. MUIR, *OST*, 4. 318.

53. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 167-8.

54. KANE, 2. 418.

55. *SBE*, 10. 1. 65 ff.

56. *SBE*, 10. 2. 33-6, 91. 162-4, 179 etc.

57. *Ibid.* 128-31.

58. FICK, 60 ff.

59. KANE, 2. 109.

60. KNIGHT, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, HOS, 32. 454 ff.

61. RADHAKRISHNAN, *Philosophy of the Upaniṣads*, 24-5.



dominating force in the days of the Upaniṣads.<sup>62</sup> With the rise of the new faiths of Jainism and Buddhism the Institution of Sacrifice suffered considerably in popular estimation. The Jātakas often contain polemics against the Brahmins profiteering in sacrificial ceremonies and quote a proverb current amongst the people regarding the priests at the ritual.<sup>63</sup> Soon after this period, which synchronizes with the age of the later Upaniṣads, we already find the germs of the Bhakti ideas taking root which finally revolted against the killing of animals at sacrifices.<sup>64</sup> But it will be incorrect to suppose that sacrifices ceased to be performed altogether from this period onwards. We have inscriptional evidence to suggest that a few centuries before the Christian era some kings had performed sacrifices. If we believe in the historicity of the statement contained in an inscription of Samudragupta that he performed an aśvamedha after a long period of its abeyance,<sup>65</sup> we have to concede that sacrifices were rarely or not at all performed by kings who flourished in the centuries of the Christian era before the date of Samudragupta.

The Vāyu Purāṇa credits the instances of the performance of sacrifices with its kings of the 'past' and amongst its kings of the 'future', only Pravira is said to have performed sacrifices. These instances appear to have some historical basis as they closely agree with the historical survey of the ritual given above. Again our text speaks of the institution of yajña as if it is a thing of the by-gone Tretā and Dvāpara ages. The Purāṇa is apparently unaware of the aśvamedha of Samudragupta and its political history does not take into account the far-flung and glorious empire of Samudragupta and his successors.<sup>66</sup> The fact that it gives credence to the views which went against the performance of rituals and the fact that the maharṣis—also called munis—themselves protest against the violence of killing animals at sacrifices may make us believe that here the influence of the Bhakti ideals had made itself felt. This is more than obvious from the speech of Śiva to Brahmā about the futility of sacrifice and its corollaries. Thus, chronologically speaking, the Purāṇa has left for us a state of facts about yajña which prevailed in the early centuries of the Christian era preceding the age of the Imperial Guptas.

**Brahmins and Dāna :** From the times of the RV. the right of the Brahmin to receive gifts has been recognised and it is equally obligatory on the other classes to make presents. The RV. also contains *dāna-stutis* ("in praise of giving") which immensely exaggerate these

62. *Ibid.* 141.

63. FICK, 197-8.

64. R. G. BHANDARKAR, *Vaiṣṇavism, Śaivism etc.*, 106 ff.

65. ELIOT, *Gupta Inscriptions*, 28.

66. The Purāṇa speaks only of the principalities of Anuṣaṅga, Saketa, Prayāga and Magadha over which the Guptas ruled.

donations and the exaggeration grows in the Brāhmaṇas. The Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa states that "oblations go to the gods and the fee to the learned Brahmins who are the human gods".<sup>67</sup> It is important to notice that the enumeration of gifts in the Vedic literature, in the main, includes articles of personal property such as horses, kine, buffaloes, ornaments, etc., but not land. The Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa mentions gift of land but with disapproval. The Upanisads view dāna with the same estimation as they do in case of the sacrifice and the Ch. Up. contains an ironical statement describing a procession of dogs to march like a procession of the priests, each holding the tail of the other in front and saying, "Om, let us eat. Om, let us drink.....etc."<sup>68</sup> But the Upanisads never "influenced society as a whole".<sup>69</sup> The Jātakas are aware of gifts to priests but they often ridicule the swindling ways of the greedy Brahmins who filled their pockets from the sacrificial ceremonies.<sup>70</sup> Kauṭilya too recognises the right of the Brahmin to receive gifts and the corresponding duty of the other castes to make them.<sup>71</sup> The topic of dāna, however, receives a very elaborate treatment from the works on the Dharma-śāstra which contain many principles and regulations regarding the proper dāna, its kinds and religious efficacies. The early Dharma-śāstra works, in their definition of dāna, generally emphasize that the donees should be proper persons<sup>72</sup> and put a stress on their observance of śāstric rites.<sup>73</sup> They divide dāna into three kinds namely *nitya*, *naimittika* and *kāmya*. The three categories of best, intermediate and worst are also referred to but the basis for this classification is the value of the subject-matter of gift<sup>74</sup> and not the motive or purpose behind it for which they adopt the three-fold classification mentioned above. But the growth of the Brahmin population appears to have its repercussions on the principles and regulations of dāna and "it came to be said that a Brāhmaṇa, whether learned or ignorant, was to be a donee and may accept gifts without any scruples".<sup>75</sup> The first inroad on the old ideals of dāna was made in the great Epic which makes it a rule that "in rites meant for gods the character and learning of the Brāhmaṇas need not be deeply inquired into, but that such enquiry was proper only when they were to be invited for śrāddha and other rites for the dead".<sup>76</sup> Even these rules appear further relaxed in the later Smṛtis and Puraṇas which enjoin that in śrāddha gifts should be given to Brahmins without scrutinizing their conduct.<sup>77</sup>

There is another aspect of this topic of dāna. Verses regarding dāna are commonly cited in the inscriptions of land-grants of the

67. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 336; cf. also KANE, 2. 837 ff.

68. RADHAKRISHNAN, *Philosophy of the Upanisads*, 25.

69. *Ibid.* p. 141.

70. FICK, 197; MEHTA, 247.

71. Cf. p. 7.

72. KANE, 2. 115-6.

73. *Ibid.* 842.

74. *Ibid.* 848.

75. *Ibid.* 117.

76. *Ibid.*

77. *Ibid.*

Gupta period and of later times. These verses have been traced in the Mbh. and in the Agni, Garuḍa, Kūrma, Liṅga, Matsya, Padma, Varāha and Bhaviṣya 'Purāṇas.<sup>78</sup> PARGITER says that these verses are peculiar to the Purāṇas though in the inscriptions they appear as quotations from the great Epic. The verses generally affirm the beneficial nature of the gifts and proclaim the merit accruing therefrom and condemn those who deprive the grantees of land to future evils.<sup>79</sup>

Though the Vāyu Purāṇa does not speak so strongly against dāna as do the Ch. Up. and the Jātakas still it contains a reference indicating its low estimation by the maharṣis (or munis) and by Śiva. / Its classification of dāna is peculiar to it as it is not found in any of the early Dharma-śāstra works in the same sense as it does in our Purāṇa. Its idea of *dāna-lakṣaṇa* indicates tendencies which appear to be earlier than those reflected in the definition of dāna found in the Anuśāsana Book of the Mbh.<sup>80</sup> This stanza is almost equivalent to the one in the Vāyu but the latter emphasizes the point that the subject-matter of a gift should be a lawfully acquired property (cf. *nyāyena upāgataṁ*) of the donor—a fact which is mentioned differently in the stanza quoted below. It is in its treatment of the śrāddha that the Purāṇa is more elaborate on the matter of dāna and here we find a statement that the conduct of a Brahmin should not be enquired into. This statement definitely shows traces of a later date and we are already informed that the śrāddha chapters of the Purāṇa cannot claim a very high antiquity.<sup>81</sup> But the absence in the Purāṇa of the imprecatory verses which occur in inscriptions and which are traced in most of the other Purāṇas and the Mbh. may be regarded as chronologically suggestive.

Brahmins at Tīrthas : Cf. App. B.

The Brahmins as Reciters of Kathās, Gāthās etc. : The term '*gāthā*', occurs in the RV. meaning usually a song or verse. The gāthās, though religious in content, are not mantras and hence are non-Vedic.<sup>82</sup> In the aśvamedha sacrifice, as described in the Brāhmanas,<sup>83</sup> we find mention of two lute-prayers, a Brahmin and a warrior, who in verses of their own composition (gāthās), glorified the generosity and war-like deeds of the sacrificer and his ancestors.<sup>84</sup> With the fate of the aśvamedha, recitation of such gāthās also seems to have gone out of existence.

78. JRAS 1912, 248 ff.

79. Ibid.

80. Vide KANE, 2 847. cf. *yad yad iṣṭatamaṁ loke yas cāpi dayitaṁ grhe tad tad guṇavate deyaṁ tad eva akṣayam iśchataḥ* cf. also Vā 59. 49 — *yad yad iṣṭatamaṁ dravyaṁ nyāyena upāgataṁ sa yot tad tad guṇavate deyaṁ iti etad dāna-lakṣaṇaṁ*.

81. HAZRA, 167.

82. Ved. Ind., 1. 224-5.

83. KEITH, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, HOS, 32. 343-7.

84. WINTERNITZ, *History of Indian Literature*, 1. 311.

The word Kathā occurs in the Ch. Up. in the sense of "philosophical discussion".<sup>85</sup> Kauṭilya refers to a king interested in Kathā (i.e. conversation) with a courtier<sup>86</sup> but he does not enlighten us on the Brahmin reciter of Kathā. The early Dharma-śāstra works do not inform us anything about the Brahmin reciting or narrating Kathās though they refer to temple-priests with contempt. Manu says that a *devalaka* (i.e. a Brahmin who takes remuneration to perform service before the image in a temple) for three years continuously was unfit to be invited at a śrāddha or to officiate in a sacrifice to gods.<sup>87</sup> We have no information from these works whether these temple-priests, or any other class of Brahmins at such temples, maintained themselves by reciting Purāṇas and Kathās of old. About the beginning of the seventh century A. D. we find the Poet Bāna relating in his historical romance, the *Harṣa-carita*, how he attended a reading of the Vāyu Purāṇa "in his native village".<sup>88</sup> Thus it appears that some centuries before the date of Bāna the practice of reading Purāṇas—whether at village-temples or tirthas, we do not know—had come into vogue.

The Gupta inscriptions mention Kathāvids by which they probably refer to Brahmins well-versed in Kathās, but the information of the inscriptions does not throw more light on this.<sup>89</sup>

The reference to recitation of gāthā by dvijas found in the Purāṇa may probably remind us of the lute-player Brahmins at āśvamedha performed in the period of the Brāhmanas. The references to Purāṇa and Kathā recitations, however, cannot claim such a high antiquity, though we may not take them to be later than the age of the Guptas.

**Brahmins and Politics :** The Purohita : In the ṚV. he appears as a domestic priest of the king or perhaps a great noble himself. Every king must have a Purohita according to the ṚV. But very often he appears to assure his lord's safety or victory by means of his spells or prayers.<sup>90</sup> In the Brāhmana literature we find in the *rājasūya* sacrifice the Purohita as one of the eleven *ratnins*—also called king-makers (*rājakṛt*)—to whom *ratnahavis* were offered by the king who was about to be consecrated. He is here mentioned after the commander-in-chief.<sup>91</sup> He is studiously referred to as a Brahmin only in the majority of the Yajus schools and it would appear that he represented the Brahmin caste in the king's ministry and wielded much influence in matters of state policy. The Purohita, as can be made out from Ait. Br. VIII, 24-7, was the partner and co-adjutor of the *alter ego* of the king. More than that he was the active Providence ruling the kingdom as well as the king.<sup>92</sup> The Jātakas depict the person of the

85. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 134.

86. WINTERNITZ, *op. cit.*, 526.

87. JAYASWAL, 2, 16. ff.

88. p. 250.

89. *BDCRI*, 2, 165.

90. GHOSHAL, 50-1.

91. KANE, 2, 109-10.

92. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 5 ff.

Purohita in a wider perspective. There we find him as a domestic priest of his sovereign, as his teacher and guide, as his friend and companion in good or bad days and more than that an officer of purely temporal character. He is even described as a fortune-teller.<sup>93</sup> The Arthasāstra, however, ruled him out from the list of proximate factors of government.<sup>94</sup> Kauṭilya no doubt advises the king to heed him "as a student his teacher, as a son his father, and as a servant his master,"<sup>95</sup> and places the Purohita in the first rank of state officials. But he is conspicuous by his absence in the list of "seven elements" nor is his skill in the use of charms and spells included in the list of the three powers of the king.<sup>96</sup> The early Dharma-sāstra works tend to show that kings often left the ecclesiastical matters to the Purohita and relied on their advice.<sup>97</sup> In the Rāmāyana we find the Purohita Vasiṣṭha wielding considerable influence in matters of state. He is mentioned sometimes as being prominent amongst the *mantrins* and sometimes acts as a *de facto* premier.<sup>98</sup>

The term *ratnin* is not traced in the literature later than that of the Brāhmaṇas. The Vāyu uses the term "*ratna*" in a different sense in which it has been used in the Brahmanas. It mentions seven jewels instead of eleven in addition to other seven heavenly (divya) ratnas. The words used by the Vāyu is *ratna* and not *ratnin*. Again the Purāṇa associates the term with a cakravartin of the Tretā age which according to it is a by-gone age. Significantly enough the Purāṇa mentions the term *ratna* elsewhere in connection with the consecration of king Prthu—a fact which leads one to believe that the Purāṇa has handed down for us, in this respect, a piece of very ancient information. It may be recalled here that the *ratnins* of the Brāhmaṇas are mentioned in connection with the rājasūya sacrifice.

In addition to what has been given above, the Purohita figures in the Vāyu as an important person in matters of state, as an adviser whose advice was heeded with respect and as one who could virtually become the ruler in the king's absence. As these incidents about the Purohita mainly refer to the kings of the pre-Mauryan period and agree in general with the Vedic information about him, we are right in assuming his historical rôle in ancient Hindu polity as being next in importance to the king himself.

#### BRAHMINS *versus* KṢĀTRIYAS :

(i) Vasiṣṭha, Satyavrata Triśaṅku and Viśvāmitra : King Triśaṅku is not known to the Vedic literature and PARGITER takes him as the

93. FICK, 164 ff.

94. GHOSHAL, *op. cit.*

95. Trans. p. 1.

96. GHOSHAL, 88-9. DIKSHITAR, however, questions the correctness of these arguments, cf. his *Hindu Administrative Institutions*, 123.

97. KANE, 2, 363.

98. *Mitā DHARMA, Rāmāyana Polity*, 47 ff.

king of the Kṣatriya tradition.<sup>99</sup> He has discussed this episode in a separate article<sup>100</sup> where he has shown three stages in the narrative of the story, viz. (i) the exile of Satyavrata due to the intrigues of Vasiṣṭha, (ii) the great famine in which Satyavrata supported the family of Viśvāmitra, and (iii) Vasiṣṭha-Viśvāmitra struggle and restoration of Satyavrata. After considering all the bare facts of the story he comes to the conclusion that "it is really an ancient Kṣatriya ballad" which "may have been handed down by the court bards and then put into writing six or seven centuries before the Christian era,"<sup>101</sup> though it shows some traces of preliminary tampering by the Brahmins.<sup>102</sup> It should be noted that the Vāyu, (though elsewhere it merely alludes to the Vasiṣṭha-Viśvāmitra conflict,) does not narrate the details of the conflict between Vasiṣṭha and Viśvāmitra and the incident of the raising to heaven of Triśaṅku by Viśvāmitra occurs only in the version of the Ms. Kha. Thus our Purāṇa has handed down to us a reliable version of this "ancient ballad" the historicity of which may be judged accordingly.

We are here concerned primarily with the influence of the Brahmin Purohita vis-a-vis the king or his heir-designate. The ancient kernel of the story bears out the conclusion that the royal priest was a power to be reckoned with even by the heir-designate—the only son of his father (?). The intriguing Purohita was capable of effecting an heir's exile. Indeed he could become a *de facto* ruler of the kingdom and he "had all the religious and political power of the kingdom in his hands".<sup>103</sup> But this was politics and his position was such only by virtue of facts and could not be legalized by usage; for Vasiṣṭha seems to have apprehended the nature of opposition to his regime as we can infer from his intention to anoint Satyavrata on the throne.<sup>104</sup> This according to PARGITER, indicates that the Kṣatriya order and the people disapproved of Satyavrata's enforced exile since we are not informed about any actual conflict about Satyavrata's restoration with the help of Viśvāmitra. Vasiṣṭha probably had to withdraw from the scene as "the whole kingdom was ill-affected towards him." Viśvāmitra now became the dominant influence and after Satyavrata's death, he<sup>105</sup> "probably did his king honour by raising him to the celestial dignity by naming a constellation *Triśaṅku* after him." The whole story clearly indicates the true import of the term *rājakṛt* mentioned in the Brāhmaṇa literature. Indeed the significance of the position of Purohita becomes more apparent when we notice that Viśvāmitra, after undergoing the severity of penance should have aspired not for the throne of his ancestral kingdom but for the purohitaship of the king of Ayodhyā !

99. *AIHT*, 11.100. *JRAS* 1913, 885 ff.101. *Ibid.* 904.102. *AIHT*, 74-5.103. *JRAS* 1913, 899.104. Other Purāṇas mention Satyavrata's son instead. Cf. *JRAS* 1913, 895, fn. 2.105. *Ibid.* 900.

(ii) The Sages, Vena and Pṛthu : Pṛthu is the name of a semi-mythical personage who is mentioned in the RV. and later as a ṛṣi and more especially as the inventor of agriculture, and as the lord of both the worlds of men and animals. He bears in several passages the epithet Vainya "descendant of Vena".<sup>106</sup> In the RV. Vena is mentioned as a "generous patron".<sup>107</sup> The compilers of the Vedic Index consider Pṛthu as a "culture hero" rather than a real man<sup>108</sup> and PARGITER too thinks him to be mythical.<sup>109</sup> JAYASWAL, however, regards him a historical personage.<sup>110</sup> The incident of the "milching of the earth" is alluded to in the AV.<sup>111</sup> In the Śatapatha and Taittirīya Brāhmaṇas we have the rājasūya sacrifice described in details.<sup>112</sup> Here we are told of the six Pārtha Homas which are connected with Pṛthu Vainya who is expressly stated to be the "first anointed king" of the world. The Sūta is here mentioned as one of the Ratnins—reference to whom has already been made above—to whom the preliminary offerings called the *ratnahavis* are to be offered in the course of the ceremony. But before these offerings are made it is enjoined upon the king to seek a formal approval of the earth. We are also informed that waters of rivers and seas are to be brought for the sprinkling ceremony. The Mbh. account of the story of Pṛthu is more coloured and amplified and brings in altogether new elements. It does not associate him so much with the older ritual of the rājasūya as it connects him with its own theory of the origin of kingship.<sup>113</sup> The Rāmāyaṇa too narrates the tale in the same manner but gives more prominence to Brahmins.<sup>114</sup> The Manusmṛti appears more concerned about Vena than Pṛthu. Of Vena it tells us that in the reign of this king the levirate (*niyoga*) system—which it says is called the law of the jungle (*paśudharma*) by the learned Brahmins—had its origin.<sup>115</sup> The Smṛti further adds that this kind of varṇasamkara was promulgated by Vena who had no control over his passions<sup>116</sup> and that he met his ruin on account of his arrogance.<sup>117</sup> Of Pṛthu the same work informs us that Pṛthvī (earth) was his *bhāryā* (wife).<sup>118</sup>

This brief survey of the various versions of the story of Pṛthu at once enables us to fix the chronological position of the version of the same tale occurring in our Purāṇa. Chronologically the Vāyu version stands midway between those of the Brāhmaṇas and the Mbh. Even in the period of the RV. Pṛthu was regarded as a very ancient personage and the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa merely testifies to the statement of that Veda by calling Pṛthu the "first anointed king". Our Purāṇa further

106. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 16.107. *Ibid.* 325.108. *Ibid.* 16.109. *AIHT*, 40.110. *Hindu Polity*, 2, 48, fn. 3.111. *Cf. ERE*, 4, 225.112. KEITH, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, *HOS.*, 32, 343 ff.; see also JAYASWAL, 2, 16-7 and KANE, 2, 1217 fn.

113. JAYASWAL, 2, 47 ff.

114. *Ibid.* for reference.115. *IX*, 66.116. *IX*, 67.117. *VII*, 41.118. *IX*, 44.

corroborates the same information by associating him with the period of the interregnum between the Cāksuṣa and the Vaivasvata Manvantaras. The RV. calls Pṛthu the inventor of agriculture, the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa makes a king in rājasūya seek formal approval of the earth and the Vāyu narrates the incident of the pṛthvī-dohana. For so much of the Vāyu account there is corroboration from the Vedic literature. The annihilation of Vena, however, finds no reference in Vedic literature; on the contrary, the RV. calls him a "generous patron". It is difficult to imagine the source from which Vāyu has obtained its information. With regard to the remaining details the Vāyu agrees fairly with the Brāhmaṇas, though it modifies the account to a certain extent. The Vāyu reference to the Sūta refusing at the outset to sing a panegyric of the king is also instructive; and we know from the rājasūya ritual of the Brāhmaṇas that the Sūta was one of the ratnins offerings to whom implied that their approval was necessary as a condition precedent to the coronation ceremony.<sup>119</sup> That the Vāyu version is earlier than that of the Mbh. will be apparent when we discuss the theory of the origin of kingship. It is unnecessary to comment on the comparatively later character of Manu's version.

A few words may be added here regarding the part of the Niṣādas and other tribes in the story. The Niṣādas are mentioned in the *viśvajit* sacrifice and the Vedic literature probably understands by them "a whole body of aborigines outside the pale of the Aryan organization".<sup>120</sup> The Niṣāda sub-tribes are not mentioned in the Vedas. If we believe that the story of Pṛthu has some historical basis, as JAYASWAL tells us,<sup>121</sup> we may venture the following explanation of the part played by the Niṣādas: There was a conflict between the tribal chief Vena and the sages who were supported by the common people. Vena seems to have sought the help of the aboriginal tribes—that is the Niṣādas—but still he could not maintain his position and finally met his ruin. That the people supported the sages is suggested by the fact that they seconded the speech of the sages at the consecration of Pṛthu. Whether we regard Pṛthu as a historical personage or not, it has to be admitted that the legend has something to inform us regarding the Aryan expansion in the eastern and central India; for it mentions the Māgadhas and Sūtas and the aboriginal tribes about the Vindhyas.

(iii) Brahmins and Janamejaya: In the Vedic literature, Janamejaya appears with his patronymic Pārikṣit who was famous at the end of the Brāhmaṇa period. He is known as the performer of *aśvamedha*. According to the Śatapatha and Aitareya Brāhmaṇas his capital was Āsandīvanta. The Ait. Br. states that at one sacrifice he did not employ

119. JAYASWAL, 2, 27.

120. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 453-4.

121. *Hindu Polity*, 2, 48 fn. 3.



the Kāśyapas which eventually resulted in a tussle between them.<sup>122</sup> RAYCHAUDHARI has discussed the chronology of this Pārikṣit Janamejaya. From the evidence of the Brāhmaṇa-literature he states that this Janamejaya had performed two aśvamedhas and that it was at the performance of the second aśvamedha that he had quarrels with the Kāśyapas.<sup>123</sup> From the evidence of the collated Purāṇic tradition PARGITER concludes that the story of his ruin at the hands of Brahmins is a mixture of Kṣatriya and Brahmin traditions.<sup>124</sup>

So far as the performance of two aśvamedhas is concerned the Vāyu version of the story corroborates the information of the Brāhmaṇas. But our Purāṇa does not refer to the Kāśyapas and amplifies the Brāhmaṇa account of the quarrel by stating that he met his ruin at the hands of the Brahmins who consecrated his son Śatānika as the king. RAYCHAUDHARI says that the Gārgyas had quarrels with Janamejaya, the son of Parikṣit I, while our Janamejaya according to him was the son of Parikṣit II.<sup>125</sup> If this be the case, the Vāyu may be taken to have confused the two Janamejayas. Again the Vāyu gives another account of his quarrel with the Gārgyas which is not found in the Vedic literature in connection with the same Janamejaya.

The Matsya Purāṇa gives a different version stating that the king made a successful stand in the beginning but later gave in and after making his son the king, went to the forest.<sup>126</sup> Thus the Matsya-account falls more in line with that of the Brāhmaṇas than that of the Vāyu and may be considered to be the earlier one of the two; and we may conclude with PARGITER that the Vāyu has here some mixture, if any, of the Kṣatriya and Brahmin traditions.

By the time of Kautilya the story of Janamejaya appears to have been regarded as one of the glaring examples of how a king can go to rack and ruin through his non-control of senses. He further tells us that "the wrath of the Brahmins brought him his ruin."<sup>127</sup>

(iv) Brahmins and Purūravas: Aila Purūravas is mentioned in the RV. which however does not definitely say whether he was a king.<sup>128</sup> The story of the antagonism of Purūravas against Brahmins is considered by PARGITER to be an ancient tradition. He further draws other conclusions with which we are not here concerned.<sup>129</sup>

Brahmins and Kārtavīrya Arjuna: Kārtavīrya Arjuna is not mentioned in the Vedic literature,<sup>130</sup> and PARGITER calls him a king of the Kṣatriya tradition. He considers the story of Kārtavīrya's death at

122. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 273-4 and 2 5 ff. 123. *PHAI*, 15 ff, 30, ff.

124. *AIHT*, 50. 125. *PHAI*, 15.

126. *PHAI*, 32. Cf. also PARGITER, *Purāṇic Texts of the Dynasties of the Kali Age*, pp. 86 ff.

127. P. 11. Cf. *Kopāj janamejaya brāhmaṇeṣu vikrāntaḥ*.

128. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 129. *AIHT*, 305-6. 130. *AIHT*, 7.

the hands of Jāmadagnya Rāma as historical,<sup>131</sup> though the account of Rāma's killing Kṣatriyas off the earth twenty-one times, as is found in the Mbh. and in the other Purāṇas, is according to him purely a tale of Brahmanical tradition without any historical basis behind it.<sup>132</sup> There is no doubt that "at the end of his long reign Arjuna came into collision with Jamadagni and his son Rāma." The genealogical accounts of the Purāṇas—the Vāyu included—do not explain how this happened except as a result of Āpava's curse.<sup>133</sup> The story of this curse is, according to PARGITER, largely Brahmanical and the contents of this story, as given in the Vāyu, also confirm his opinion. The introduction of the sun-god, the occurrence of marvels, exaggerations in the incident and also the curse of Āpava Vasiṣṭha for which the king was almost innocent, belie the historicity of the account. PARGITER tells us that there is no Kṣatriya version of this story, the nearest approach to which, he says, is found in the version of the Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa which says nothing of the destruction of all the Kṣatriyas.<sup>134</sup> He has apparently missed our Vāyu version which too does not mention it. It should be noted that our Purāṇa does not narrate the exploits of Rāma especially his annihilation of the whole Kṣatriya order, which forms a very powerful theme for the redactors of the Mbh.,<sup>135</sup> nor does it mention the expression "thrice seven times" which appears to have been a favourite slogan with the bards of the great Epic<sup>136</sup> with regard to the tale of this extermination of the Kṣatriyas. Thus the Vāyu version is probably earlier than that of the Mbh.

Some observations may be made here with regard to the conclusion that can be deduced from these stories of the "Brahmin-Kṣatriya conflicts". The above discussion about them shows that only the first, third and the fifth can be taken to have some historical basis. About the second and the fourth it is doubtful whether we should treat them as historical. The fifth is largely tampered with, still the germ of the tale, viz., the conflict between Arjuna and Rāma, may be considered to be based on facts now lost to us. Do these incidents lead us to conclude that in those ancient times the Brahmins vied with the Kṣatriyas for supremacy? Or was there a class (or caste) struggle for ascendancy between the Brahmins and the Kṣatriyas? The answer, it appears, should be in the negative. For in the first instance of Vasiṣṭha we find it merely a personal rivalry and at no stage the conflict assumes a representative character, and again Vasiṣṭha appears there to be devoid of popular support. The third incident may be considered important in this connection but the mention of Paura-Jānapadas suggests that whenever the Brahmins came into conflict

131. *Ibid.* 265-7. 132. *Ibid.* 73. 133. *Ibid.* 266. 134. *Ibid.* 267, fn. 3.  
135. SUKHTANKAR, *Epic Studies*, VI. 6 (ABORI, 18). 136. *Ibid.* 65.

with the ruling sovereign they expected support from the people; and the last incident—on which the Vāyu does not throw much light—suggests that the Bhārgavas looked at the affair with the point of view of their own clan and probably were helped by other Kṣatriyas with whom they were related by matrimonial ties.<sup>137</sup>

**Brahmins and Education :** Study of the sacred texts formed the basis of the Brahmin's learning from the Vedic times. The expression '*svādhyāya*' occurs in the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa which waxes eloquent on its advantages.<sup>138</sup> In the Jātakas we find a distinction made between the proper (i.e. learned) Brahmins and the other ones. The later Sūtra-literature contains many rules and regulations regarding his studies.<sup>139</sup>

The Vāyu does not contain any rules and regulations about the education of the Brahmins. It only gives us instances some of which can be traced to the Vedas and are probably ancient facts. The debate at Janaka's aśvamedha is described in the Br. Up.<sup>140</sup> But in that work we find the king himself putting questions to the sage Yājñavalkya and the questions are of a different nature.<sup>141</sup> In the Vāyu, however, we find Devamitra Śākalya contesting with Yājñavalkya the prize announced, the discussion centred on the topic of kāma, and its termination was the victory for Yājñavalkya and death for Devamitra Śākalya. This Yājñavalkya was a son of Brahmanābha who, according to PARGITER, was a contemporary of king Adhisīmaka of the Kuru-Paurāva line. Śākalya was his contemporary teacher of a śākhā of the ṚV.<sup>142</sup> PARGITER is, however, silent on the historicity of the contest.

Suffice it to state here that debates at sacrifices were common which afforded good opportunity for the learned to display their knowledge. A disputation called *brahmaugha* had a regular place in the aśvamedha sacrifice and in the *daśa-rātra* (ten-night) festival. The reward for such learning was the gaining of the title of Kavi or Vipra.<sup>143</sup> The Vāyu Purāṇa, it is to be noted, calls Yājñavalkya a Kavi.<sup>144</sup>

The system of the teachings passing from father to son is found in the Vedas.<sup>145</sup> The sage Jaimini, however, is not mentioned in the Vedas though the Vedic works of the Sāmaveda on his name are extant.<sup>146</sup>

In the Vāyu we find Jaimini as a disciple of Vyāsa to whom the compilation of the Sāmaveda was entrusted. The Vedic silence on Jaimini, according to PARGITER, is due to the fact that the Vedas are regarded as existing from the primordial times and to admit that any one had compiled them struck at the very root of that belief.<sup>147</sup>

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137. *AIHT*, 267. 138. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 86. 139. FICK, 190 ff.; MERTZ, 257.  
 140. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 87. 141. Cf. Br. Up. VI. 1. 1-9, 20-9.  
 142. *AIHT*, 330-1. 143. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 87. 144. Cf. VA. 60. 41.  
 145. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 88. 146. *Ibid.* 1. 290. 147. *AIHT*, 9, 320.

## III. KṢATRIYAS

Who were the Kṣatriyas? : The word *Kṣatriya* is used in the ṚV. frequently as an epithet of gods and in some verses it means 'a king or a nobleman'.<sup>148</sup> Its use in the sense of a caste, i. e., one of the four castes, is observable particularly in the later Vedic literature.<sup>149</sup> The term '*Kṣattra*' is also used in the ṚV. sometimes in a compound "*brahma-kṣattra*" but here the two words mean 'prayer' and 'valour' respectively.<sup>150</sup> In some Vedic works the term *Kṣattra* collectively stands for the Kṣatriyās.<sup>151</sup> The word *rājanya* is found in the ṚV. only once in the *Puruṣa-sūkta*,<sup>152</sup> but in the later Vedic literature it becomes a regular term for a man of the royal family.<sup>153</sup> It appears that by the time of the Jātakas the word *Khattiya* came more into general use and here it is applied not only to the descendants of the victorious classes under whose leadership the Aryan people acquired their new dwelling-places in the Gangetic lands but also to the rulers of the aboriginal peoples who, in their fight with the foreign invaders, maintained their independence.<sup>154</sup> Kauṭilya uses the term *Kṣatriya* more often than *Kṣattra*.<sup>155</sup> The epics probably take the word *Kṣatriya* in a wider sense but there is nothing in them to infer that every warrior was a *Kṣatriya*.<sup>156</sup>

Out of these terms the Vāyu uses only *Kṣattra* and *Kṣatriya* very frequently. It rarely mentions the term *rājanya*. The use of the term *Kṣattra* is found mostly in the genealogical lists where too we find the compound *brahma-kṣattra* also occasionally mentioned. This may lead us to speculate on the chronological aspect of these lists.

In the story of the king Sagara, our Purāṇa refers to the Śakas, Yavanas, etc., as *Kṣatriya-gaṇas*. PARGITER tells us that the ballad of Sagara's conflict with these Śakas, Yavanas and Kambojas, etc., is really ancient dating back to a period earlier than the Bhārata battle.<sup>157</sup> The Śakas, he says, "certainly were not Aryans by origin".<sup>158</sup> Then why are they here called *Kṣatriyas*? PARGITER suggests that they were originally Druhyas ruling in the Mleccha countries of the north who came back to India to help the Haihayas and were called Śakas.<sup>159</sup> He is probably labouring under a supposition that those who were not Aryans—i.e., who were foreigners or aborigines—could not be called *Kṣatriyas*. But the evidence of Jātakas shows us that in their time even princes of the aboriginal tribes could become *Kṣatriyas* and the epics too express the same view. The very fact that later tradition maintained

148. KANE, 2. 30. 149. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 252. 150. KANE, 2. 30.

151. *Ibid.* 152. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 202. 153. KANE, 2. 30; and *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 216.

154. FICK, 78-9. For 'rājāṇa' in the Jātakas, cf. p. 153 fn. See also RHYA DAVIDS, 56.

155. See *Inden Verborum* by S. SASTRY, 1. 371.

156. HOPKINS, *JAOS*, 13. 73 ff. 157. *JRAS* 1919, 261.

158. *Ibid.* 159. *Ibid.*

that in the Kali age Kṣatriyas do not exist means that many foreign and aboriginal princes had been incorporated into the order which the later theorists viewed with disfavour.

**Prominent Position of the Kṣatriyas :** Jātakas almost always, in their enumeration of castes, mention the Khattiyas first.<sup>160</sup> The Mbh. equally shows, if cleared of the priestly gloss, that the military caste stood at the top, below whom were the priests and the people.<sup>161</sup>

In the cosmological account with regard to the origin of the varṇas or their functions, the Vāyu mentions the Kṣatriyas first and the other orders (varṇas)—including the Brahmins—are mentioned afterwards. No Brahmin compiler could have ever thought of so mentioning the Kṣatriyas first, for elsewhere, wherever the four varṇas are mentioned, the sense of gradation is never lost sight of. The Vāyu mentions the Kṣatriyas first and repeats the same again in the same account and this cannot be regarded merely as an oversight. Have we here anything to do with the Kṣatriya tradition<sup>162</sup> of PARGITER which regarded the Kṣatriyas as the foremost amongst the four castes? But this would be speculating too much for the present for there is no general agreement<sup>163</sup> regarding an independent Kṣatriya tradition of PARGITER nor have we any information from PARGITER as to whether even cosmology was included as a topic in his Kṣatriya tradition.

#### INTELLECTUAL ACTIVITIES OF THE KṢATRIYAS

(i) **Brahmavādin Kṣatriyas :** (a) **Purūravas :**—Though Purūravas is mentioned in the RV.,<sup>164</sup> we have nothing from that Veda to infer that this king was so learned as to justify an epithet "brahmavādin". The Purāṇic tradition itself is not unanimous on this point. The Matsya<sup>165</sup> and Padma<sup>166</sup> Purāṇas do not know of this epithet of the king while the Brahma<sup>167</sup> Purāṇa has its information identical with that of the Vāyu.

(b) **Malina :** The Brahma Purāṇa credits the son—his name is not mentioned—of Tamsu (i.e. Trasu of the Vāyu) with being a brahmavādin. His mother named Ilā (for which name Vāyu has Itinā) is also called a brahma-vādinī. She is referred to in the Matsya as Ilinā who bore four sons all of whom were brahma-vādins *par excellence*. It appears that Malina was the name of a king whose father was Tamsu (or Trasu) and mother Ilinā. His name Malina sounds well with that of his mother. This king was known to have been a brahmavādin as the genealogies in the Purāṇas invariably mention the epithet though they confuse the names. PARGITER has completely missed this Malina

160. FICK, 84 ; RHYÈ DAVIDS, 54 ; MEHTA, 254.

161. HOPKINS, JAOS, 13 73.

162. Ved. Ind. 2. 3.

163. 24, 10-25.

164. 5, 12, 62 ff.

165. See KIRFEL, *Das Purāṇa Pañcalakṣaṇa*.

166. 13, 50 ff.

167. 49, 8-10, cf. *Brahma-vāda parikhrānta*.

of the Vāyu as the name does not occur in any other Purāṇa. Indeed he has also missed this Trasu of the Purāṇa.<sup>168</sup>

(c) Sons of Mitrajyoti: The Brahmandā has its text identical with that of the Vāyu. The information about these sons of Mitrajyoti, however, is found in the other Purāṇas also.<sup>169</sup> PARGITER thinks that the passage is misplaced in the Purāṇas and is unable to find its true connection.<sup>170</sup> It appears that this is a piece of very ancient information which the redactors had to retain though they did not know where to place it. It would be unnatural to expect the Brahmin redactors to invent this information and insert it in the genealogies for which it appears there would be no reason for them to do so.

(ii) Kings who Retired to Forest-life and Practised Penance :  
(a) Brhadaśva : PARGITER remarks that though this story is in a fabulous form still it is worthy of note. He even suggests from the contents of the story that the southern part of the Rajputana desert was probably a sand-filled sea. The story is also found in the Mbh.<sup>171</sup> The Rākṣasi Dhunḍhā is referred to by Hemachandra and the anniversary of her death was observed as a ceremony in the 10th and 11th century Gujarat,<sup>172</sup> a fact which may have some historical significance.

(b) Trayyārūpa : The Purāṇic tradition knows nothing more about him except that he left his kingdom and went to forest because of his son's behaviour.<sup>173</sup>

(c) Viśvāmitra : The story of Viśvāmitra has been discussed fully by PARGITER<sup>174</sup> and it is unnecessary to give the details here.

(d) Kapila : PARGITER has not discussed his political history. The Vāyu identifies his father Vasudeva to be the same Vasudeva as the father of Kṛṣṇa.<sup>175</sup>

(e) Bali : A boon was granted by Brahmā to this king who was the father of five sons to whom he gave five kingdoms of the east. He is also mentioned in the Matsya<sup>176</sup> and the Brahma Purāṇas.<sup>177</sup>

(f) Manu : Some Purāṇas omit his name in the genealogical list of Ikṣvāku kings of Ayodhyā. PARGITER, however, accepts the historicity of the Vāyu account.<sup>178</sup> The Matsya refers to Manu as a mahāyogin and as the promoter of the Kṣatriyas in "future yugas"; it also mentions him elsewhere with Devāpi while summing up the genealogical lists in which place, however, Vāyu does not mention his name.

168. KIRFEL, *Das Purāṇa Pañcalakṣaṇa*. 169. *AIHT*, 111.

170. *Ibid* 86. cf. fn. 4 for references; cf. also KIRFEL, op. cit.

171. *AIHT*, 260 for references cf. fn. 5.

172. SANKALIA, *The Archaeology of Gujarat*, 242.

173. *AIHT*, cf. fn. for references; see also KIRFEL, op. cit.

174. *JRAS* 1913, 885 ff. and 1917, 37 ff.

175. See KIRFEL, op. cit.

176. 48, 26.

177. 13, 33 ff.

178. *AIHT*, 94.

(g) *Samyāti* : The other Purāṇas mention Yati for *Samyāti* of the Vāyu.<sup>179</sup> The Brahma says that Yati was the eldest brother of Yayāti and that he became a muni.<sup>180</sup> The Matsya states that Yati, while still young, became a yogin and embraced the life of a wanderer.<sup>181</sup> The Padma has the same śloka to describe Yati.<sup>182</sup> It appears that the Vāyu has mistaken *Samyāti* for Yati. It mentions both the names and its information should properly apply to Yati who, it mentions, was the eldest brother of Yayāti after whose "becoming a muni" Yayāti became the king.<sup>183</sup>

The Vedas refer to Yayāti but do not know anything about Yati, his elder brother.<sup>184</sup>

(h) *Yayāti* : He is mentioned twice in RV., once as an ancient sacrificer and once as Nāhuṣya, descendant of Nahuṣa, apparently a king.<sup>185</sup> The compilers of the Vedic Index further remark that "there is no trace whatever of his connection with Pūru as in the Epic, the tradition of which must be deemed to be inaccurate"<sup>186</sup> and PARGITER has aptly refuted this argument to which it is unnecessary to add here anything more.<sup>187</sup> The R̥gvedic king Yayāti is undoubtedly the Purāṇic king of the same name who too was a son of Nahuṣa.

The reference to his entering forest life is contained also in the other four Purāṇas including the *Harivaṃśa*.<sup>188</sup>

(i) *Devāpi* : The R̥gvedic canon contains a hymn by Devāpi.<sup>189</sup> The Nirukta says that Devāpi and Śantanu were brother-princes in the line of the Kurus. Devāpi was the elder brother but Śantanu anyhow became the king. So there was draught which the Brahmins attributed to Devāpi being set aside by Śantanu who then was prepared to offer the kingdom to him. Devāpi refused the offer but acted as Purohita of Śantanu and rains came.<sup>190</sup> Other versions of the story also occur in the *Brhaddevatā*, the *Mbh.* and the other Purāṇas.<sup>191</sup> The compilers of the *Vedic Index* remark that there is nothing in the Vedic evidence to indicate that he was not a Brahmin. But this is *argumentum ex silentio* which cannot be treated as conclusive.<sup>192</sup> According to PARGITER his identity with Purāṇic Devāpi is quite obvious though his relation with R̥ṣiṣeṇa, mentioned as his father in the RV., is not found in the genealogical lists.<sup>193</sup>

### (iii) LIST OF RĀJARṢI KINGS

*Aṃbariṣa* : He is mentioned in the RV. as *Vārṣagīra*<sup>194</sup> with *R̥jṛāśva*, *Sahadeva*, etc. Probably he was a king.<sup>195</sup> This becomes

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|------|--|------|--|------|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 179  | <i>AIHT</i> , 86                             | 180. | 12. 3.                                       | 181. | 24. 51.                    | 182.             | 5. 12. 104.       |
| 183. | Cf. <i>Vā.</i> 93. 13-5.                     | 184  | <i>Ved. Ind.</i> , 2. 18.                    | 185. | <i>Ved. Ind.</i> , 2. 117. |                  |                   |
| 186. | <i>Ibid</i>                                  | 187. | <i>AIHT</i> , 12.                            |      |                            |                  |                   |
| 188. | See KIRFEL, op. cit., p. 397 for references. |      |  |      | 189.                       | <i>AIHT</i> , 7. |                   |
| 190. | <i>Ved. Ind.</i> , 1. 377-8.                 | 191. | <i>Ibid.</i> and also cf. <i>AIHT</i> , 252. |      |                            |                  |                   |
| 192. | Cf. <i>AIHT</i> , 12.                        | 193. | <i>Ibid.</i> 165.                            | 194. | <i>Ved. Ind.</i> , 1. 31.  | 195.             | <i>AIHT</i> , 92. |

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more probable since he is mentioned with kings in the RV. The Purāṇic tradition knows two Ambarīṣas. The Mbh. refers to songs sung by king Ambarīṣa.<sup>196</sup>

Ajamīdha : He appears in the RV. probably as a seer of a hymn.<sup>197</sup> In the Vāyu also he is called a mantrakṛt sage.

Divodāsa : He is mentioned in the RV. as a king, who was an energetic supporter of the fire ritual, for Agni is once called by his name in the RV. (VIII, 103, 2 cf. *Daivodāsa* i.e. worshipped by Divodāsa).<sup>198</sup> Hymn I, 130, 7, 10 of the RV. proves that some of the descendants of the warrior Divodāsa were sages and Brahmins. But in the RV. Divodāsa does not figure as a king of Kāśī.<sup>199</sup> The Purāṇic tradition shows him as a king of Kāśī<sup>200</sup> and tells a tale of his abandonment of his capital Vārāṇasī. The same incident is found in Brahman̄ḍa (iii. 67, 26-31).

PARGITER says there were two Divodāsas in the Kāśī dynasty of whom one was identical with the R̥gvedic king Divodāsa.<sup>201</sup>

Kakṣīva : (The same as Kakṣīvat). He is frequently mentioned in the RV. as a seer. WEBER suggested that he was originally a Kṣatriya as he is mentioned with kings such as Vitahavya, Trasadasyu, etc.<sup>202</sup> To the purāṇic tradition two Kakṣīvats are known. The Kakṣīva in the rājarṣi-list was probably the son of Dīrghatamas through a *sūdra* maid-servant of king Bali. This Kakṣīva practised severe austerities and became a Brahmin. Kakṣīvat was the earlier one of the two.<sup>203</sup> That he should be included in the list of royal sages is interesting. But let us here recall the Purāṇa information that king Bali claimed him as his son and Dīrghatamas set aside that claim. The opinion of WEBER quoted above deserves to be considered in this respect though the compilers of the *Vedic Index* take it to be "an unnecessary assumption".<sup>204</sup>

Māndhātā : The king Māndhātṛ of the first Maṇḍala of the RV. appears as a protégé of Aśvins.<sup>205</sup> The hymn X. 134 of the RV. is attributed to him.<sup>206</sup> LUDWIG and GRIFFITH equate this king Māndhātṛ with the rājarṣi Māndhātṛ of the epics and the Purāṇas but the compilers of the *Vedic Index* dismiss the suggestion as "unnecessary and improbable".<sup>207</sup> Māndhātṛ Yauvanāśva ('descendant of Yuvanāśva'), is in the Gopatha Brāhmaṇa, the name of an emperor who was instructed by Vicārin, son of Kabandha Ātharvaṇa.<sup>208</sup>

The Purāṇic tradition knows him by the patronymic.<sup>209</sup> The Vāyu quotes two stanzas current about him<sup>210</sup> and also calls him an incarnation

196. *Ibid.* 197. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 13. 198. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 363.

199. *Ibid.* 2. 30. 200. *AIHT*, 153. 201. *Ibid.* 153-5.

202. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 131-2. 203. Cf. *AIHT*. 220-4. 204. *Ibid.*

205. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 132. 206. *AIHT*, 7. 207. *Op. cit.*

208. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 133. 209. *AIHT*, 42. cf. fn. 1 for references in Purāṇas.

210. 77. 67 ff.



of Viṣṇu. The Brahmaṇḍa also quotes the stanzas found in our Purāṇa. The specific information of the Gopatha Brāhmaṇa appears to corroborate the Purāṇic tradition that he was a learned rājarṣi.

**Prthu Vainya :** He is mentioned in the RV. as a seer.<sup>211</sup> PARGITER suggests that the Prthu Vainya in the list of the mantrakṛt sages was a descendant of Prthu, son of Vena, "for Vainya Prthu is included in a list of eighteen Bhārgava hymn-makers and appears as Venya Pṛthī in R̥gveda X. 148, 8. Thus this Vainya Prthu is, according to him, a different person from the king Prthu of the hoary past."<sup>212</sup>

**Purukutsa :** "There are two Purukutsas with sons named Trasadasyu" known to the Purāṇic tradition<sup>213</sup> and PARGITER identifies the R̥gvedic king Purukutsa,<sup>214</sup> not with the son Purukutsa of Māndhātṛ but with another and later Purukutsa who was a contemporary of Aśvamedha Bharata.<sup>215</sup> In the Vāyu the epithet rājarṣi does not occur in connection with either Purukutsa in the genealogical lists. But elsewhere in the list of rājarṣi kings it mentions Purukutsa after Saṃkṛti and Kapi who were descendants of Bharata, and this probably suggests that this rājarṣi Purukutsa is the same as the R̥gvedic king of that name.

**Janamejaya :** About the rājarṣi Janamejaya, son of Purañjaya, we have no information from the Vedic literature. The Brahma and Matsya Purāṇas and the Harivaṃśa too mention him as a rājarṣi.<sup>216</sup> PARGITER has apparently missed his political history.<sup>217</sup>

**Ṛṣabha :** According to the Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa he was a king of Śviknas and had performed an aśvamedha. He is also mentioned there as having probably been the source of a saying of gauravīṣāktyas.<sup>218</sup> He is probably identical with the mantrakṛt Ṛṣabha of the Vāyu Purāṇa. But whether he can be identified with any of the Ṛṣabhas mentioned in the Purāṇic tradition is a moot point.<sup>219</sup>

(iv) **Kṣatriyas and Vedic Learning :** Of training and education of the Kṣatriyas we have no record from the RV. presumably because they were mainly instructed in the art of war. In the latest stratum of the Brāhmaṇa literature there are references to learned princes such as Pravāhaṇa Jaivāli, Janaka, Aśvapati Kekaya and Ajātaśatru.<sup>220</sup> Their eminence was due primarily to their knowledge of brahma-vidyā, though Janaka is mentioned by Yājñavalkya as one who had studied the Vedas as well as the Upaniṣads.<sup>221</sup> There occur various passages in the Jātakas which leave no room for doubt that sons of princes had to

211. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 16

212. *AIHT*, 202.

213. *Ibid.* 133.

214. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 541.

215. *AIHT*, 133.

216. KIRFEL, op. cit., 523<sup>18</sup>.

217. Cf. *AIHT*, 145. Here he mentions Purañjaya but omits Janamejaya, the rājarṣi who according to the Purāṇas and the Harivaṃśa was a son of this Purañjaya.

218. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 115.

219. Cf. *AIHT*, 249 fn. 7 for PARGITER's remarks on the same.

220. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 205-7.

221. KANE, 2, 106-7.

devote, like the Brāhmaṇa youths, a certain time of their life to religious studies.<sup>222</sup> Kauṭilya also expected a king to be well-educated in the Vedas and in various other sciences.<sup>223</sup> The Dharmaśāstra works enjoin that the Kṣatriyas should be well versed in the traditional lore of the Vedas; but these directions were probably meant to be an ideal.<sup>224</sup> It appears that by about the beginning of the Christian era the average prince and Kṣatriya "used to possess only a very limited knowledge of the Vedas and philosophy".<sup>225</sup>

The information of the Vāyu in this respect is not very instructive. It quotes only one instance of a king's education and of his learning the Vedas. But it has more to inform us about their connection with the compilation of the Vedas and about their interest in the life of the forest and the problem of the *brahman*.

It will not be out of place if we state here the conclusions that emerge out of this discussion on the intellectual activities of the Kṣatriyas. Most of the kings, mentioned above in this connection, have been found to be historical personages. Many of them were known to the Vedas which in some respects testify to the Purāṇa evidence that they were learned. What is striking about them is that the political history of the Purāṇic tradition shows them, excepting the doubtful instance of Manu, to belong to a very hoary antiquity and that is probably the reason why their names are traced in the Vedas. Some of them belong to a period anterior to that of the Ṛgveda and the ascription to them of the knowledge of brahman and of the practice of yoga and tapas—which were developments of an age posterior to their own—can hardly be considered as historical facts. Nevertheless the Purāṇic tradition, in common, knew that they had some connection with learning though not with what it tells us.

Some scholars have protested against the general assumption that the Brahmins alone were the custodians of the intellectual heritage of ancient India. Long ago DUESSEN pointed out that "numerous indications point to this that the proper guardians of this (i.e. Upaniṣadic) thought were not originally so much the priestly classes...as the Kṣatriyas."<sup>226</sup> R. G. BHANDARKAR also supported this view in his "*Vaiṣṇavism, Śaivism etc.*"<sup>227</sup> as did also GARBE and FICK.<sup>228</sup> GRIERSON says that the Kṣatriyas contributed a great deal to the development of the Bhakti school,<sup>229</sup> and WINTERNITZ has expounded the thesis that the Kṣatriyas were mainly responsible for the development of the ascetic literature of India.<sup>230</sup> The information of the Vāyu Purāṇa may be regarded

222. FICK, 92 cf. also MEHTA, 254. 223. See Trans. pp. 10-11.

224. KANE, 2. 363 ff. cf. also ALTEKAR, *Education in Ancient India*, 163 ff.

225. ALTEKAR, of. cit. 168. 226. *System des Vedanta*, 1883, p. 18. 227. p. 9.

228. Cf. FICK, p. 90 fn. 1, see also REYS DAVIDS, p. 256 ff.

229. ERG, see *Bhakti*. 230. *Some Problems of Indian Literature*, 21 ff.

to support the view of WINTERNITZ. But we are warned that "to attribute wisdom to a king was a delicate and effective piece of flattery,"<sup>231</sup> and we have to judge the value of our evidence accordingly.

(v) Kṣatriya-Brahmin-Relations: There have been divergent views regarding the formulation of caste in the age of the R̥gveda.<sup>232</sup> But the general opinion on this subject is that the caste system developed at the end of the Vedic period.<sup>233</sup> It has been suggested that the Kṣatriyas of the RV. were probably only a class—and not a caste—which was more or less fluid and the kings and Purohitas were not so known by virtue of their birth.<sup>234</sup>

The connection of the Kṣatriyas with Brahmins was very close in the Vedic times and the prosperity of the two is repeatedly mentioned.<sup>235</sup> The marriage of Brāhmanas with Rājanya women is illustrated by the cases of Sukanyā, the daughter of king Śaryāta, who married Cyavana and of Rathavīti's daughter, who married Śyāvāśva,<sup>236</sup> but such instances are few and it has been generally conceded that the system of caste with its rule regarding marriage within caste had taken a definite shape in the times of the later Samhitās,<sup>237</sup> though the rule about connubium was not so rigid as it was in later times. By the time of the Jātakas we find that marriage within the caste was a general rule, though we have certain examples of the transgression of this rule where the children of such mixed marriage were considered legitimate.<sup>238</sup> The early Dharma-śāstra works generally enjoin that one should marry within one's own varna though they do show a consciousness of a state of facts that this was not always so.<sup>239</sup> The epics, however, show occasionally that the Brahmins were matrimonially connected with the Kṣatriyas.<sup>240</sup>

The instances of Kṣatriya-Brahmins have been fully treated by PARGITER.<sup>241</sup> He says that the Purāṇic statements referring to them cannot have originated with the Brahmins because it was not in the interest of any Brahmin *gotra* to allege such a beginning. He further

231. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 206.

232. For references cf. *Vedic Index*, 2. 247 ff. GHURYE, *Caste and Race in India*, 40 ff. and also BDCRI, 2. 34.

233. BHANDARKAR, *Collected Works*, 2. 511.

234. KANE, 2. 31. KANE here cites certain instances in support of his contention.

235. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 204.

236. *Ibid.*, 2. 260, cf. also KANE, 2. 447.

237. Cf. KANE, op. cit. GHURYE remarks, "while there are few traditional examples of Kṣatriya girls being married to Brahmins there is not a single example from among the personages of this age where a Brahmin girl has married a Kṣatriya," See his *Caste and Race in India*, 45.

238. FICK, 51 ff.

239. KANE, 2. 448 ff. We are not here concerned about the *anuloma* and *pratiloma* kinds of marriages.

240. HOPKINS, *JAOS*, 13.

241. *AIHT*, Chapt. 23.

adds that "these statements were too damaging to exclusive Brahmanic pretensions. The Brahmins then did not put them into the genealogies. The statements came from Kṣatriya sources and were notices which occurred naturally in the course of the royal genealogies.....the statements, therefore, were genuine ancient tradition and were known to be true beyond gainsaying".<sup>242</sup>

The names of kings with whom the origin of these various Kṣatriya Brahmins are associated may be given below :

- (a) Māṁdhātā—ancestor of the Hāritas and Viṣṇuvṛddhas and whose origins are separated from him not beyond three to five generations.
- (b) Ajamiḍha—ancestor of the Kaṇthāyana Brahmins and the Maudgalyas who were not removed for more than five generations from him. This Ajamiḍha was the earliest king of the North Pañcāla dynasty.<sup>243</sup>
- (c) Vitatha Bharadvāja,—adopted son (?) of Bharata (ancestor of Gāgras, Kapis and Sāmkṛtis who were his immediate descendants ).
- (d) Divodāsa—ancestor of the Maitreyas who were his immediate descendants.

The origin of the Śāradvatas is, according to the Purāṇa, to be assigned to the period immediately after that in which king Śaṁtanu flourished.

It will be obvious from the discussion of the age of these kings, that they belonged to a period anterior to that of the ṚV. which mentions all of them.<sup>244</sup> Thus the origin of these Kṣatriya Brahmins can be said to have taken place in the age anterior to that of the Veda except in the case of the Śāradvatas who appear to have sprung up in the time of the ṚV.<sup>245</sup> What is striking in this is that we do not find such instances in later genealogies probably because the caste system began to have its effect on the social structure of the post-Ṛgvedic period.

Chronologically the same conclusion is true of the instances of Kṣatriya-Brahmin marriages also (excepting the last two whose chronology it is difficult for us to make out). These cases are found in the Purāṇa without any vestige of an idea that they went against a settled custom prohibiting inter-caste marriages.

(iii) Brahmins appointed to raise issue for Kṣatriyas (for particulars see "*Nityoga*" in the chapter on Marriage).

(iv) A Kṣatriya adopting a Brahmin as his Heir: "In early societies, a son by levirate was always preferred to a son by adoption. An

242. *Ibid.* 124.

243. *Ibid.* 116, 251.

244. Bharata, father of Vitatha Bharadvāja is mentioned in the ṚV.; cf. *AIHT*, 7.

245. Cf. *AIHT*, 7.

adopted son presupposed a tremendous legal fiction for which society was not yet ripe." We have a statement in the RV. that an adoptive son born of another is no son at all.<sup>246</sup> This prejudice against an adopted son was due primarily to the fact that there existed other kinds of sonship known to the society of those days which were preferable to the sonship by adoption. The kinds of sons referred to in the early Dharma-sūtra works and the degree of preference in which the adopted son stood clearly testify to this. The Āpastamba Dharma-sūtra, even though it condemns Niyoga, is equally opposed to giving away of a son in adoption.<sup>247</sup> But the more the other kinds of sonship fell into disuetude through the advance of morality and the increasing prevalence of child marriage, the more was the theory of adoption improved and was at last developed into one of the most important institutions of Indian Law.<sup>248</sup> In connection with adoption the Smṛti works generally cite the well-known legend of Śunaśēpa in the Ait. Br. whom his father Ajigarta sold to king Hariścandra under the pinch of poverty and who was afterwards adopted by Viśvāmitra.<sup>249</sup> That these texts do not note the case of adoption cited in our Purāṇa is really very significant. This omission may be due to the fact that the instance belongs to the Purāṇic tradition which had not the same authority as the source of law as the Vedic texts,<sup>250</sup> or it may also be due to the fact that the Smṛtikāras by referring to this instance would have involved themselves into a fallacy that a Brahmin could be adopted by a Kṣatriya which would have upset the principles which they held in general about caste in their law of adoption. The historicity of the instance of the Purāṇa is assured for us by PARGITER who remarks that "the statement that a distinguished Brahmin became a Kṣatriya's son could not have come from a Brahmin source". He regards the Vāyu version of the story as earlier which according to him is manifestly an ancient Kṣatriya tradition.<sup>251</sup> The Vāyu has an interesting information that Bharadvāja claimed to be both a Brahmin and a Kṣatriya and calls himself as one having "two fathers" which the Matsya tries to change.<sup>252</sup> Again the Purāṇa states that this Bharadvāja from being originally a Brahmin became a Kṣatriya. Such a state of facts could never have been viewed with favour by even the early Dharma-sūtra works according to whose theories of varṇāśrama such an occurrence should certainly have been stamped as a case of varṇasaṃkara.<sup>253</sup>

246. ALTKAN, 169.

247. Cf. JOLLY, *Hindu Law and Custom*, (Eng. Trans. by GHOSH), 159.

248. *Ibid.* 249. *Varaṇṣha Dharma Sūtra*, 17, 31 ff.

250. N. C. SEN GUPTA, *Sources of Law and Society in Ancient India*.

251. *AIHT*, 160. 252. *Ibid.*

253. It should be noted that according to the Smṛtis the adoptive son was required to be of the same caste and status as those of the adoptive father. Cf. JOLLY, *op. cit.* 162.

## THE VAIŚYAS

"The Vaiśya plays singularly little part in the Vedic literature which has so much to say of the Kṣatriyas and the Brahmins." He was really an agriculturist and followed pastoral pursuits and commerce also. The Vaiśyas formed the bulk of the masses excluding, of course, the Śūdras.<sup>254</sup>

The name Vaiśya is first found in the *Puruṣa-sūkta* of the RV. and then frequently from the AV. onwards.<sup>255</sup> The RV. however uses the word "viś" quite a number of times though in a variety of senses. The expression is sometimes used to signify "a people" and is occasionally used as a synonym of *jana*.<sup>256</sup> It is certain that viś cannot in almost all the hymns of the RV. mean Vaiśya.<sup>257</sup> FICK says that the *Jātakas* do not show Vaiśyas as a caste. The *gahapatis* of these texts show some resemblance to the Vaiśyas of the Brahmanical theory.<sup>258</sup> In the great Epic, however, we find the Vaiśyas forming the caste of a people who were after money.<sup>259</sup>

We have an interesting instance of the expression 'viśāṁ patiḥ' used in the *Purāṇa* in connection with king Kārtavīrya Arjuna and his son Jayadhva. Here the word viś does not certainly mean the caste vaiśya but appears to signify "the peoples" or "countries" as we find the same expression used in the Vedic literature. That the expression 'viśāṁ patiḥ' should be found in the *Purāṇa*-genealogies only in connection with the king Kārtavīrya and his son is really significant though we are unable for the present to explain this connection.

The Vaiśyas mentioned in the story of Pṛthu probably indicate that they formed the bulk of the masses, for here the three varṇas—and not the śūdras—are mentioned and they are here recommended to pay homage to the king.

The other references to Vaiśyas in the *Purāṇa* can be easily assigned to a period subsequent to that of the *Jātakas*, for nowhere do we find them in the *Purāṇa* in such a respectable position as the *gahapati* in the *Jātakas*. On the contrary, they are occasionally condemned probably because many of them belonged to faiths which the *Purāṇa*-redactors held in contempt and whenever they are mentioned in a favourable light they are associated with Śūdras and women.

## THE ŚŪDRAS

The word *śūdra* is unknown to the RV. except in the *Puruṣa-sūkta*. The RV. knows the *Dasyus* or *Dāsas* both as aborigines and as subjected slaves and the Śūdras of the later Vedic texts were certainly aborigines who were reduced to subjection by the Āryans. The term mostly

254. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 333-5. 255. *Ibid.* 256. *Ibid.* 257. *KANZ*, 2. 32-3.  
258. P., 252 ff. of. also MEHTA, 255-7. 259. HOPKINS, *JAOS*, 13. 73.

indicated those who were beyond the pale of the Āryan state. The Vedic references to his condition imply this. The Ait. Br. says that he is a "servant of another to be expelled at will" and "to be slain at will". The Pañcavimśa Brāhmaṇa says that even if he is prosperous he cannot but be servant of another and that his business is to wash the feet of his master.<sup>260</sup> Though the Jātakas mention the word *śudda* (i.e. śūdra) in their theoretical discussions of castes, there is nothing in them which points to the real existence of a fourth caste, the Śūdras. In their realistic picture of the society of their times in eastern India, however, there are frequent references to the low races such as those of Cāṇḍālas, Pukkusaś, etc.<sup>261</sup> In the Dharma-śāstra-literature we find many disabilities imposed on Śūdras<sup>262</sup> and the Mbh. says that they cannot own property<sup>263</sup> and insists on their duty to serve.

In the Vāyu account of social origins we find them first described as a miserable, powerless and servile people. The occurrence of *delusion* and the consequent revision of the functions of the varṇas by the Creator may be regarded as significant. Does it indicate a reminiscence in the Purāṇa of a fact that the people who were loosely called Śūdras were originally aboriginal peoples rendered helpless by the invading Āryans who then later absorbed them into their society by assigning to them the lowest work of servitude? The reference to Śūdras in connection with king Yayāti, where they appear as distinct from the Dasyus must be considered inapplicable to the period of the king who is mentioned in the RV. It only shows that a large number of aboriginal inhabitants had been incorporated into the Āryan fold and the Dasyus signified probably the remaining aboriginal tribes. On the contrary, the absence of reference to Śūdras amongst the varṇas who were required to pay respects to the king Pṛthu indicates that the story has been preserved for us in an antiquarian form.

#### THE DASYUS

The mention of the Dasyus in connection with Budha, father of Purūravas, clearly indicates the antiquity of the information, for here we find the Dasyus not as slaves but as enemies with whose annihilation Budha is credited as if it were his glorious achievement. In the Vedic tradition we find Indra credited with this achievement.<sup>264</sup> The Dasyudharma mentioned in connection with king Satyavrata Trisāṅku is equally suggestive of the antiquity of the reference because of the absence of the prohibition of eating cow-flesh in the story and because of the possibility of the Dasyus harassing the Brahmins in their possession of cows.

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260. *Ved Ind.*, 2, 387-92. 261. FICK, 314. 262. KANE, 2, 154.  
 263. HOPKINS, *JAOS*, 13, 13. 73. 264. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 347.

## SLAVERY AND SLAVE-TRADE

The word *dāsa* has the sense of 'slave' in several passages of the RV.<sup>265</sup> Slaves, both male and female, are found mentioned in the Vedic literature.<sup>266</sup> The Vaideha slaves are referred to as prize in connection with king Janaka of the Br. Up.<sup>267</sup> The Jātakas too testify to the existence of slavery.<sup>268</sup> Slavery was probably not much in evidence in India of the 4th cent. B.C., for we find Megasthenes stating that none of the Indians employ slaves though it is admitted that slavery did exist then. The Dharma-śāstra also gives some consideration to slaves.<sup>269</sup>

There is one very striking instance of slavery found in our Purāṇa in connection with the sale of the child of Viśvāmitra by his wife. We have seen above how the story of Trisāṅku embodies an ancient tradition and in the reference to this tale we have a very ancient state of facts preserved for us. We find a similar account from the Ait. Br. regarding the purchase of Śunaḥśepa as a victim in a sacrifice.<sup>270</sup> The story of the prize of slaves, etc., told in our Purāṇas, is corroborated by the Br. Up. in connection with the same king Janaka.

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265. *Ved. Ind.*, 357.      266. KANE, 2. 180-1.      267. *Ibid.* 181.  
 268. FICK, 307-10.      269. See KANE, 2. 183 for details.  
 270. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 385.



## CHAPTER II

### WOMAN AND MARRIAGE

#### I. WOMAN

**Estimation of Women :—**In the ṚV. we find that "the wife on her marriage was at once given an honoured position in the house; she is emphatically a mistress in her husband's house."<sup>1</sup> But still uncomplimentary remarks about her, especially with regard to her unstable faith, are found in that Veda. Regard for her begins to diminish in the latter Samhitās and in the Brāhmaṇas to such an extent that the Maitrāyaṇī Samhitā generally classes her with dice and drink, as one of the three chief evils and she is even declared to be the very untruth and the embodiment of calamity.<sup>2</sup> Early Buddhism did not regard her with much respect and Buddha is shown very unwillingly admitting her to the uddhist Order which consequently led to the formation of a separate order of nuns.<sup>3</sup> Her wicked nature is frequently alluded to in the Jātakas.<sup>4</sup> In the early Dharma-sāstra works her position gradually becomes worse and worse and she is assigned a position of dependence<sup>5</sup> and is even charged with serious moral defects<sup>6</sup>

The peculiarity of the information of our Purāṇa is such that condemnatory remarks about her are rarely found in it. The only positive statement regarding her evil disposition is found in her association with the Kali age when women are said to outnumber men. ALTEKAR tells us that deliberate attempts were made to blacken her character from about the beginning of the Christian era<sup>7</sup> and the Vāyu statements may be supposed to reflect the social condition of the women of that age.

**Women and Chattel :** In some respects women were regarded as chattel even in the times of the ṚV., as is indicated in the famous hymn about gambling, which shows that confirmed gamblers would stake away their wives to their opponents. But the same hymn suggests that social conscience had begun to disapprove of such practices.<sup>8</sup> Women, captured in war, particularly, suffered in their status and were regarded as chattel and thus we find in the ṚV. Viṣvadeva described as having won his bride in battle<sup>9</sup> and similar incidents are found in the epics also.<sup>10</sup> It is clear that though the Kṣātra marriage—according to which the condition of woman as a chattel is implied—continued

1. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 484; A. C. DAS, *Rgvedic Culture*, 238-9.

2. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 485 ff.; KANE, 2. 368, 575; ALTEKAR, 383 ff.

3. OLDENBERG, *Buddha*, 164 ff.; 377 ff.; cf. also LAW, *Women in Buddhist Literature*.

4. MERTA, 286-9. 5. KANE, 2. 367. 6. *Ibid.*, 577-8; ALTEKAR, 383 ff.

7. P. 385. 8. A. C. DAS, *Rgvedic Culture*, 105; ALTEKAR, 406.

9. ALTEKAR, 45; cf. also DAS, *op. cit.* 10. HOPKINS, *JACS*, 13. 361-2.

to be recognised by the Smṛtis and the epics, it had ceased to be approved, even by the enlightened Kṣatriyas in the 3rd century B.C.<sup>11</sup> In the Jātakas the wife is shown under the subjection of her husband and was his absolute property.<sup>12</sup>

The Vāyu has only one instance of this category and its antiquity may be judged accordingly. The first reference to women in connection with the king Yayāti is devoid of historical basis as Yayāti was a king of the pre-Ṛgvedic period. We are not sure whether we can say the same about the other statement about women in connection with the same king.

Women equal in Status to Śūdra: In Vedic times women had equal status with men and initiation and other ceremonies were performed for her also.<sup>13</sup> The Vedas do not class her with Śūdras and the Jātakas are silent on this point.<sup>14</sup> In the Dharma-śāstra literature, however, we generally find that their position is similar to that of the Śūdras in many matters.<sup>15</sup> Manu positively states her to be equal in status to a Śūdra.<sup>16</sup>

The Vāyu has no explicit statement with regard to this and this silence may be regarded as suggestive though not as a conclusive evidence. The inference that her status was, according to the Purāṇa, equal to Śūdra becomes probable from the description of the Kali age. We have to note, however, that our Purāṇa classes even Vaiśyas with women.

Her Status as Wife: The sanctity of the marriage-tie is as old as the ṚV.<sup>17</sup> The perpetuity of the marriage-union is praised in the Vāyu and the reference presupposes the knowledge of the theory of rebirths and probably of the avatāras also. Thus this statement of the Purāṇa must be supposed to be coeval with or later than the antiquity of the theory of rebirth and avatāras. The ideal happiness which our Purāṇa wishes for a girl—to secure a good husband and be blessed with male progeny—is also as old as the Vedas and the sentiment was popular throughout the ages. Hence it is unnecessary to discuss its chronology.

Her Status as Mother: In the Vedic period the mother ranked after the father in the family. Details are given in the Śūtras about the respectful attention paid to a mother and about the ceremonies in which she is concerned.<sup>18</sup> The social conditions depicted in the Jātakas also imply her respectable position.<sup>19</sup> Whatever the condemnation of women in the whole of Dharma-śāstra literature, we find there her position as

11. ALTEKAR, op. cit. 12. MEHTA, 290.

13. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 485; A. C. DAS, op. cit., 249. 14. See MEHTA, 276 ff.

15. KANE, 2. 594; cf. also ALTEKAR, 12. 19, 236 ff.

16. V. 139 cf. *śrī Śūdras tu śakya śakya*. 17. KANE, 2. 427; ALTEKAR, 34 ff. etc.

18. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 151. 19. MEHTA, 291-2.

mother definitely exalted. Some of these works are even schematic on this point and work out the degrees in which she should be respected as compared with the preceptor, the father, etc.<sup>20</sup> *Manu* says that a mother is thousand times greater than the father.<sup>21</sup> The great epic also contains eulogies of this nature.<sup>22</sup>

The *Vāyu* does not discuss the niceties of the problem of the degrees of respect to be paid to the mother. We are not sure on the point whether this points to the antiquarian character of the *Purāṇa*. The incidents which indirectly show the high respect paid to her are purely mythical, but at any rate they reflect a state of society in which a mother was highly esteemed.

**Immunity from Capital Punishment :** "From very ancient times it appears that the idea was that women should not be killed on any account."<sup>23</sup> The *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa* says that a woman ought not to be killed,<sup>24</sup> that only a king, (according to some *Dharma-śāstra* works, e.g. *Gautama Dharma-sūtra* and *Manusmṛti*) could punish a woman to death but even for this he had to undergo a slight penance and this punishment is allowed in the case of her adultery with a man of a lower caste.<sup>25</sup> The epics are equally emphatic on this point.<sup>26</sup>

The information of the *Vāyu* in this respect falls more in line with the *Dharma-śāstra* works and the epics than with the *Śatapatha Brāhmaṇa*. The incident stated in connection with king *Prthu* suggests that she did not enjoy an unconditional immunity and this reference accords well with the views expressed in the *Gautama Dharma-sūtra* and the *Manusmṛti*.

**Women and Higher Studies :** In the Vedic times women were capable of undertaking higher studies. They participated in the intellectual activities of the day.<sup>27</sup> Twenty women are recorded in the *Sarvānukramaṇikā* as authoresses of the hymns of the *RV*.<sup>28</sup> The names of *Maitreyī* and *Gārgī* of the *Upaniṣads* are too well-known to need mention. The ancient grammarians were also familiar with women teachers.<sup>29</sup> The *Jātakas*, however, show that her education was on the decline. But still we find women admitted to the order of nuns.<sup>30</sup> At least, this was so at that time in eastern India. The *Dharma-śāstra* literature shows that "literary education amongst women was in a languishing state or almost nil."<sup>31</sup> The cause of women's education suffered a good deal after about 300 B.C., on account of the new fashion of child-marriage that began to come into vogue. Even the initiation ritual that was allowed her from the Vedic times was now reduced

20. KANE, 2, 580-81.

21. II. 145.

22. ALTEKAR, 118.

23. KANE, 2, 593.

24. ALTEKAR, 380.

25. KANE, op. cit.

26. ALTEKAR, op. cit.

27. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 496.

28. ALTEKAR, 12; KANE, 2, 365.

29. KANE, 2, 366.

30. OLDENBERG, *Buddha*, 164 ff.; 377 ff.; MEHTA, 298.

31. KANE, 2, 368.

to a mere formality and then was dropped out altogether. This put an end to her education.<sup>32</sup>

The instances quoted from the Purāṇa are mostly mythical and thus of doubtful value. Of the instances from the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa the one about Dhūmini's penance is apparently fantastic. The only incident that deserves the credit of historicity is that of the wife of king Bāhu, though the penance practised by the wives of Sagara may also deserve some consideration. Whether we regard these references as historical or not, the Purāṇa has given us information about matters which rarely took place in the period after the 3rd cent. B.C.

**Seclusion of Women:** There is no evidence from the Vedas and the Jātakas<sup>33</sup> regarding the seclusion of women. "There can be no doubt whatsoever that the Purdah was quite unknown down to about the beginning of the Christian era".<sup>34</sup> But soon after this time it appears that a section of society began to advocate a greater seclusion of women.<sup>35</sup>

The Vāyu shows no instance of any seclusion of women. The case of Kumārīpura in a Kṛtrima fort does not appear to indicate seclusion of women. It only shows that women had separate residential arrangements for them in an ideal Kṛtrima fort, just as the harems of kings were known to us from very early times. "Thus, according to the Vāyu, women could move freely in society. This may be taken as evidence for the antiquity of these references from the Purāṇa.

**The Suttee:** The custom of sacrificing the wife at her husband's death existed amongst the Indo-Europeans.<sup>36</sup> The Vedic age shows that self-immolation of the widow was then an ancient custom which began to fall out of practice.<sup>37</sup> We find the AV. mentioning suicide of the widow on the death of her husband as an "ancient duty" (XVIII. iii. 1). The custom, however, appears again to peep into existence at about 300 B.C. and afterwards grew in frequency till at about 400 A.D. It was common amongst the Kṣatriyas.<sup>38</sup>

✓ The Vāyu has only one instance of the *suttee*. The text is not explicit whether she did actually ascend the funeral pyre. The Brahma Purāṇa and the Hari Varṇsa fill up the blank. They say that king Bāhu's wife ascended the funeral pyre evidently to immolate herself and the sage Aurva dissuaded her from the act. The Viṣṇu and the Brhannāradya say so explicitly.<sup>39</sup> The ground on which Aurva appears to have dissuaded the wife of Bāhu from her act of self-immolation suggests

32. ALTEKAR, 18-9.

33. There are certain indications in the Jātakas to the contrary but the evidence on the whole does not point to a rigid custom of seclusion of women. Cf. MEHTA, 290-1.

34. ALTEKAR, 19; KANE, 2. 596-8. 35. ALTEKAR, 200.

36. SCHRADER, *Prehistoric Antiquities of the Aryan Peoples*, 391.

37. ALTEKAR, 137 ff. 38. ALTEKAR, 140-3; ERE, 2. 207; KANE, 2. 624 ff.

39. JRS, 1919, p. 355, fn. 4.

that the custom was not still regarded with disapproval. This instance thus falls in time and spirit with the period anterior to that of the RV, which reminds us of an ancient custom of the *suttas* but shows its discontinuance.<sup>40</sup> This leads us to conclude that the Purāṇa had preserved for us a fact which might be considered historical as it synchronizes with the political history of king Sagara.

**Matronymics and the Matriarchate:** In the Vedic literature we find a person born of a maiden mentioned with his matronymic. In this custom may be found the origin of matronymics such as those which make up a greater part of the list of teachers (*varṇas*) of the Br. Up.<sup>41</sup> This practice of mention by matronymics might also be due to polygamy.<sup>42</sup> We find Dirghatamas mentioned in the RV. by his matronymic Māmateya alone.<sup>43</sup>

We know that the Aryan society was essentially patriarchal from the Vedic times and such was the case also with the Indo-Europeans.<sup>44</sup> The occurrence of matronymics amongst them might be due to reasons stated above. Only one case of matronymic—i.e. of Aila Purūravas—is found in the Vāyu which, however, mentions many patronymics with the 'Aryan' names. But the reverse is the case when the Purāṇa mentions the names of Asuras, Rākṣasas, Yakṣas, etc. Preponderance of matronymics amongst them as against the preponderance of patronymics amongst the "Aryans" is a fact worthy of attention. It has been suggested that the Asura institutions were matriarchal on the ground that they are often mentioned with matronymics.<sup>45</sup> The evidence of our Purāṇa is really very suggestive in this connection. Again we find in the Purāṇa the speech of Kaśyapa to his wife Khasā, who was a Rākṣasī which appears to confirm the above suggestion. The statement that a son is devoted to his maternal uncle may make us infer that the society of the so-called Rākṣasas or Asuras was probably matriarchal.

## II. MARRIAGE

✓ **Promiscuity:** "The Vedic works contain no indications about a society in which the relations of the sexes were promiscuous or unregulated." The Mbh., however, shows Pāṇḍu stating to his queen Kuntī that women in former ages were under no control, that they indulged themselves as they liked, that they left one man and went after another and that this state of things continued to his day when Śvetaketu, son of Uddālaka, for the first time stopped all this licence and laid down certain rules regarding marriage. There is another passage in the Sabhāparvan referring to the unrestrained nature of

40. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 488.

43. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 366.

41. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 481.

44. CHILDE, *Aryans*, 81.

42. *Ibid.*, fn. 70.

45. *JBORS*, 12. 533 ff.

Māhismatī women.<sup>46</sup> KANE, however, puts little reliance on these passages, which PARGITER considers as "possibly true".<sup>47</sup> PARGITER also quotes another instance from the Mbh. which mentions Dīrghatamas as putting an end to promiscuity.<sup>48</sup>

If any historical significance is attached to these passages, they must be referred to the pre-Vedic times; for in the ṚV we already find marriage as a sacred institution.

The instances of the Vāyu should be considered in this light. In the first instance we find Tārā, the wife of Brhaspati, seduced by Soma. What is necessary to notice here is the procedure followed in deciding the vexed question of the paternity of the child born of that 'illicit union'. That procedure does not at all indicate that Soma's connection with Tārā was a case of 'illicit' union, offending the sanctity of the marriage tie.

✓ Budha's relation with Ilā is equally significant. The text expressly says that she was 'invited' by him for cohabitation.

Equally interesting is the case of Budha's son Purūravas. That this Purūravas is mentioned by his matronymic Aila is equally significant. Was it that he was born of illicit union? Ilā was a maiden when Budha cohabited with her. It is doubtful if the relation between Purūravas and Urvaśī can at all be called 'marriage' as we understand it from the Ṛgveda onwards. A curious dialogue between him and a nymph Ūrvaśī occurs in the ṚV.<sup>49</sup> and the compilers of the Vedic Index conclude that Purūravas might be a mythical figure, pure and simple. We find, however, that the Śatapatha Brāhmana (11-5-1), while narrating this story in details, mentions the 'condition' as stated in the Vāyu. This story of the Śatapatha Brāhmana offers closer resemblances to that of our text.<sup>50</sup> Though it is difficult to say whether this episode belonged to the ancient and original Purāṇic tradition, yet its character suggests that it might have been so. Fabricated stories stand on a different footing and PARGITER says that this is not one of them. "Purūravas and Ūrvaśī were the progenitors of the great Aila race; hence their legend must have existed in earliest times".<sup>51</sup> He, however, doubts the historicity of the story of Soma's abduction of Tārā on the ground that it belongs to mythological tradition. But still he immediately says that "myths that explain the origin of the chief races...may suggest clues for exploring earliest conditions".<sup>52</sup>

What interests us further is that all these instances are associated with the earliest ancestors of the so-called Aila race who were not much removed in time from each other; and it is tempting to assume

46. KANE, 2, 427-8. Cf. also ALTEKAR, 35 ff.

47. *AIHT*, 328, fn. 8.

48. *Ibid.* 49. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 3.

50. MACDONELL, *Vedic Mythology*, 135.

51. *AIHT*, 38.

52. *AIHT*, 58.

that in the above three cases we have "explored the earliest conditions" of the institution of marriage as it prevailed amongst the "Āilas".

The fourth instance shows Bṛhaspati mating with his brother's wife Mamatā, and Bharadvāja, the issue of the union, is called Bārhaspatya and a Brahmin. What is important here to notice is the idea regarding sexual morality. Though there is a faint plea on the part of Mamatā that Bṛhaspati's behaviour amounts to violation of dharma, Bṛhaspati dismisses it on the ground that it is sheer modesty. The whole story assumes still more importance when we find Bharadvāja, (the issue of that union) adopted by Bharata.

This incident is found in the Matsya Purāṇa in a modified form. PARGITER considers the Vāyu version earlier and says that "neither version could have been composed by the Brahmans after the Purāṇa had passed into their hands". Thus this story must have belonged to the ancient Kṣatriya tradition.<sup>53</sup>

The instances, discussed above, do not exactly give us a picture of a society in which the relations of the sexes were promiscuous; still they show us that ideas regarding marriage-obligations were different. According to them, one is tempted to infer that sexual morality was not the *sine qua non* of the obligations that arose out of marriage.

It should be noted that many primitive tribes do not always regard marriage as an institution controlling sexual behaviour. Mating must not be confounded with marriage. A realistic analysis of the institution of marriage does not confound the theory and actuality in sex behaviour nor does it derive conjugal life from sexual drive. To merge the two concepts is to forego an insight into the distinctively human element of the phenomenon.<sup>54</sup> The above cases may then be supposed to offer glimpses of such primitive stage of the institution of marriage, a stage which, as seen above, must be assigned to times far anterior to those of the Vedas.

The Cult of Godharma: The text has confused king Bali with Vairocana Bali, the *asura*, probably because the *purāṇakāra* could not view such an incident connected with the progenitor of the five great families. The whole episode clearly indicates promiscuity. The story shows that Dīrghatamas *borrowed* the Cult from a Bull of Śiva and that he was persecuted. This implies that the practice was alien to the society to which Dīrghatamas belonged. PARGITER thinks that this incident finds support in the ṚV.<sup>55</sup> We have also to note that in the ṚV. Dīrghatamas is often mentioned by his matronymic. But the compilers of the VEDIC INDEX dismiss it by saying that it would be unwise to see any historical significance into this.<sup>56</sup>

53. *Ibid.*, 160.

54. LOWIE, *Encyclopedia of Social Sciences*, 10, 146.

55. *AIH*, 158.

56. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 366; cf. also *Mbh.* 1, 104, 4193-221.

Certain scholars hold that according to the RV., the aborigines practised the phallus cult.<sup>57</sup> The RV. mentions Śiśnadevas twice.<sup>58</sup> Perhaps a custom akin to this godharma might have existed amongst them which attracted the attention of Dīrghatamas to the extent of practising it himself. It must be stated that this is merely a speculation as, with the available evidence, it is difficult to suggest any historical explanation for this quaint practice of *Godharma*.

**Levirate or Niyoga:** There was a custom amongst the ancient Aryans to appoint a person to procreate male progeny for another under certain conditions. The ancient Dharma-sūtras like the Gautama allowed *niyoga*, still there were others, equally as old as the Gautama, who condemned the practice and forbade it. The Mbh. is replete with instances of *niyoga*. Satyawatī pressed Bhīṣma to procreate male progeny for his younger brother Vicitravīrya and though Bhīṣma refused to do so, Vyāsa acceded to her request. Pāṇḍu himself asked his wife Kuntī to procreate sons for him by *niyoga* from a Brahmin endowed with *tapas*.<sup>59</sup> This practice of *niyoga* was a relic of a very remote past and did not find favour with later writers.<sup>60</sup>

Now the law-books give certain rules as regards *niyoga* and it is necessary to state some of them here in order to examine the evidence of the instances from the Vāyu :

- (1) The husband, living or dead, must have no son. This shows that the underlying motive was to continue the family line.
- (2) The *gurus*, in a family council, should decide to allow the widow to raise the issue for her husband. The person appointed to raise the issue must be the *sapiṇḍa*, especially the brother, of the husband of the woman.<sup>61</sup>
- (3) The person appointed must be annointed with ghee or oil. He must not be animated by lust.
- (4) The issue belonged to the *kṣetra* (i.e. the husband of the woman who is allowed to practise *niyoga*). The text-books however differ on this point.<sup>62</sup>

In both the instances of the Vāyu we find the main motive to be the same as laid down in (1) above. (Cf. the expressions *santānārtham* and *Ikṣvākukulaavṛddhaye*). As regards point (2) it is noteworthy that the persons appointed (in the Vāyu) are not the *sapiṇḍas* of the husband, but are Brahmins. One is the preceptor himself. The other provision that in the case of the death of the husband, the *gurus* should decide in a council to appoint the person, deserves attention in this respect.

57. *Mohenjo-daro*, 1. 111.

58. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 382.

59. KANE, 2. 602-4.

60. Cf. ALTEKAR, 170 ff.

61. KANE, 2. 599-601; ALTEKAR, 170 ff.

62. KANE, 2. 601.



Why are they to have any voice in the matter according to the law-texts? In the Mbh. we find Pāṇḍu advocating appointment of a Brahmin endowed with *tapas*. It seems that the primitive custom was that a Brahmin, especially the preceptor of the husband, was a fit person in this respect and the law-books give a later stage of the custom still showing a trace of the former practice in the form of the consultation with the gurus. This would mean that the Vāyu has (as also the Mbh.) preserved for us a very ancient stage of the custom. Of the third point we find a clear evidence in the narration of the appointment of Dīrghatamas in the case of Sudeśā. This Vāyu passage, however, says that curd mixed with salt was applied to the naked frame of the sage. The Matsya adds honey also.<sup>63</sup> (The exact significance, medical or otherwise, of this practice, is difficult to be made out). As regards the fourth point, we find in both the instances from the Vāyu that the issues of *niyoga* belonged to the *kṣetra*.

The practice of *niyoga* was a relic of the remote past. It was theoretically a practice forbidden in the Kali age.<sup>64</sup> We do not find any instance of *niyoga* mentioned in the Vāyu in connection with the dynasties of the Kali age. Manu states that "in former ages men possessed *tapas* and knowledge and could strictly carry out the rules while in *Dvāpara* and *Kali* there is great deterioration of power and so men of these times cannot practise *niyoga*."<sup>65</sup> We have to judge the antiquity of the instances of Vāyu in the light of these observations.

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63. 48. 69.

64. KANE, 2. 606.

65. KANE, 2. 603.

## CHAPTER III

### POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

#### I. KINGSHIP

**Origin of Kingship:** In the RV., monarchy is the normal and the only form of government known.<sup>1</sup> The Vedic theory of the origin of kingship is found in the Ait. Br. "It asserts that the Devas.....originally had no king. In their struggle against the Asuras, when the Devas found that they were repeatedly defeated, they came to the conclusion that it was because the Asuras had a king to lead them that they were successful. Therefore they decided to try the same experiment. And they agreed to elect a king." If this is taken to have a historical reference it would refer to the tribal stage of the Aryans in India and it would suggest that the institution of kingship was borrowed from the Dravidians.<sup>2</sup>

This theory is not found anywhere in later literature on political theories, nor is it found in the Vāyu.

The ancient Hindu political writers however held two theories regarding the origin of kingship which are found narrated in the Mbh. It is necessary to discuss them here as they have a bearing on the Vāyu passages.

**First Theory:** (a) A dreadful picture of the conditions of anarchy is described which precedes the origin of kingship. This is narrated to stress the evil consequences of king's non-existence.

(b) People tried to live by mutual contracts but being afflicted with sorrow they approached (collectively) Lord Brahmā and begged for a chief to protect them.

(c) The Lord appointed Manu as their ruler. Manu hesitated at first to accept this office but after the assurances from people regarding the payment of taxes, homages, etc., he accepted the office and made them do their duties.<sup>3</sup>

Here we find the notion of social contracts blended with the theory of divine creation of the king.

The Vāyu account differs considerably from this. It does not make ~~much~~ of the evil state of anarchy—technically known by the *Matsya-nyāya*. The Mbh. account introduces immediately at the close of the anarchical state of nature a stage which approximates closely to the notion of the social contract. The Vāyu, however, states that at first Brahmā had ordained the four varṇas and they lived in a state of bliss ;

1. CHI, 1, 94 ff.      2. JAYASWAL, 2, 1-5.

3. GHOSHAL, 174 ff. *et Śāntiparvan*, 67, 17-32. Cf. also DIKSHITAR, *Hindu Administrative Institutions*, 16-7.

but somehow people were swayed away from the path of dharma by the spell of *moha*. And this gave rise to mutual conflicts which resemble the state of anarchy. Thus, as compared with the Mbh. account, the order of the two stages are inverted in the Vāyu. In the Vāyu the people approach Manu Prajāpati himself, who creates *two* kings. This mention of two kings is very queer. Has it any semblance to the theory of dual organization of PERRY?<sup>4</sup> It should be noted that most of these references occur in the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa. The Vāyu passage suggests that kingship was a divinely ordained institution. Yet we are immediately told that "thenceforward are kings wielders of danda and entertainers of their subjects". This Vāyu passage knows nothing of the notion of social contract which smacks of the ideas prevalent in the old Buddhist canon.<sup>5</sup> Thus it appears that the Vāyu has handed down to us different ideas about the same theory and we may be allowed to state that they are probably the earlier ones than those of the Mbh. which introduces the technical term *matsya-nyāya* of which the Vāyu betrays complete ignorance.<sup>6</sup>

Second Theory:<sup>7</sup> Only the points of difference need here be noted.

(a) Here also the Mbh. gives a picture of the state of nature where there was no monarchy nor the monarch and that people protected each other according to the law. This mutual co-operation, however, failed to work and the law began to suffer. Lord Brahmā prepared a gigantic treatise on Danda-nīti and gods approached Visnu who produced a son out of his own lustre. Vena was the fifth successor of this son of Viṣṇu.

This matter is absolutely new to the Vāyu which does not show any trace of it.

(b) The Mbh. is elaborate on the point of Vena's persecution of the Brahmins while the Vāyu only shows how he viewed ritual and the law (dharma) and says nothing of his persecution of the Brahmins.

(c) The Vāyu says nothing of the Pratijñā which the gods and sages proposed to the king Pṛthu.<sup>8</sup> On the other hand we find in the Vāyu account a ceremonial procedure which has a tinge of antiquity.

4. Children of the Sun.

5. Cf. GHOSHAL, 117-9.

6. Kauṭilya has another version though we are not sure whether of the same theory as found in the Mbh. and in the Vāyu. He mentions Vaivasvata Manu while our works mention Svāyambhūva Manu. Again it is stated that Kauṭilya draws at the theory of the human origin of kingship in this passage referring to Manu; cf. DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 16-7.

7. We followed the account of this theory as it is given by GHOSHAL, 176 ff.; cf. also JAYASWAL, 2-47 ff.; and PANIKKAR, *Origin and Evolution of Kingship*, 25 ff.

8. This is important to note, for JAYASWAL lays much stress on the oath. Cf. his *Hindu Polity*, 2, 45.

In the procedure we find the sage—who made him king—occupying a subordinate position.

(d) The Mbh. says that “the divine Viṣṇu entered the person of the king and hence the whole universe worships the kings as if they were gods.” This is not found in the Vāyu which, however, says that Pṛthu, being *Brahmayoni* and *sanātana*, must be respected by the three varṇas (i.e., Brāhmanas, Kṣatriyas and Vaiśyas. Note that the Śūdras are not mentioned), for their own sake.

(e) The Vāyu, however, adds the account of the “milching of the earth”. The exact significance of this is difficult to make out. We have a suggestion from the compilers of the VEDIC INDEX that Pṛthu of the RV. was probably a vegetation deity.<sup>9</sup> The idea which appears prominent in the Vāyu is that the king must provide for his people means of sustenance especially through the vegetable world.

The Vāyu material is manifestly earlier than that of the Mbh. It does not, for certain, establish that kingship was the creation of the Divine will, nor does it show kingship associated with Viṣṇu.

The Matsya-nyāya : It would have been seen that *matsya-nyāya* forms an important element in both the theories of the Mbh. The ideas about the prevalence of anarchy which preceded the rise of kingship appear in their germs in the Ś. Br. and the Tait. Br. which were woven by the later canonical writers into elaborate theories of the state of nature crystallized into the celebrated popular maxim of the *matsya-nyāya*.<sup>10</sup> The Jātakas are aware of this *matsya-nyāya* and in them we find a description of the pre-stated condition of anarchy.<sup>11</sup> Kautilya knew it well (1.4) and we find its vivid description in the Rāmāyaṇa.<sup>12</sup> By the time of Manu<sup>13</sup> and the later Smṛiti works it had already become popular.

It is significant that the second Vāyu passage does not even show a hint of the knowledge of the maxim. Nor is the first one colourful in its description of the state of things before the advent of monarchy. From its simple description that “the people did not observe the dharma and mutual conflicts arose” we cannot definitely make out whether this is exactly the state of anarchy implicit in the *matsya-nyāya*. Even if we think that it is so, still it seems that the ideas are not ripe enough to bloom into a celebrated maxim. It appears that our Purāṇa favours the term *moha* more than the term *matsya-nyāya* and probably is not aware of a commonly known maxim of the *matsya-nyāya* which otherwise would not have been missed by the Purāṇa.

The Conception of King's Divinity : The germs of the ideas of the king's divinity are found in the RV. where we find a king comparing

9. Ved. Ind., 2. 16.

10. GHOSHAL, 42-2; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 19 ff.

11. MĀṆḌŪKA, 79.

12. MISS DHARMA, Rāmāyaṇa Polity, 12-3.

13. 7. 20.

and identifying himself with the two leading deities of the Vedic pantheon. In the AV. the conception is inculcated in the form of a general doctrine while in the YV. and the Brahmanas his divinity is pre-eminently associated with his participation in the great political sacrifices. In all these cases we find mostly the deity Indra represented in the king's person. But these statements appear merely metaphorical for we find others also called divine. But the corner-stone of the theories of the king's divinity of the later canonical works, however, appears to be laid in a passage of the Ś. Br. where the king, "the rājanya is the visible representative of Prajāpati; hence while being one, he rules over many." Still it must be remembered that these texts do not declare the king to be a god by virtue of his hereditary descent. On the other hand they distinctly affirm the human origin of the king.<sup>14</sup> The Jātakas are not mindful of the theory of the king's divinity. Kauṭilya, however, appears to note it but Jayaswal comments that "no divine origin of the king is preached in the passage of the Arthashastra".<sup>15</sup> It was, however, the Manu-saṁhitā that lent its weight in support of this theory.<sup>16</sup> And we have already stated above the views expressed in the Mbh.

If we examine the Vāyu material in the light of this chronological sequence we are right in assuming the high antiquity for its contents. We are not led by it to expressly infer about the king's divinity except in its hints noted above. The creation of two kings by Prajāpati should be noted in connection with the statement in Ś. Br. that the king is the visible representative of the Prajāpati.

Other Fragmentary Statements regarding King's Divinity : These statements, especially those associated with Viṣṇu clearly remind us that they had been aware of a well-known theory of king being animated with the spirit of Viṣṇu, a view which had been well-established in the story of Pṛthu of the Mbh. Thus they should be viewed chronologically in the line of the Mbh. story.

The association of kings with gods (especially with Indra) may be pieces of panegyrics. It is, however, possible that associations with Indrs might be remnants of the theory of Ś. Br. which saw in the king the essence of Indra. It should be noted that most of these references occur in the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa.

There are some Purāṇas which discuss the fine question as to how many deities are represented in the king's person. It must be said that the Vāyu is a stranger to such notions.

14. GHOSHAL, 27-33; cf. also BAKERJEA, 70 ff.; JAYASWAL, 2, 54-9; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 57 ff. See also GHOSHAL, *A History of Hindu Public Life*, pp. 33, 57-9, 162-3.

15. 2, 56; GHOSHAL, 93-6; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 64.

16. JAYASWAL, 2, 54 ff.; GHOSHAL, 173-4.

**Protection of the People :** The activity of the sovereign on which a great stress is laid in the RV., is his duty of protecting his subjects.<sup>17</sup> The Ś. Br. says that the king is the upholder of the law or dharma, by upholding the law he becomes *rāṣṭrabhṛt* (i.e. "sustainer of the realm").<sup>18</sup> It is on this striking dictum of the Ś. Br. that the early Dharma-sūtra works, such as those of Gautama and others, base their theory that the most important of the king's duty is to protect the dharma and the four-fold human race (i.e. the four varṇas). Thus the duty of the king to protect his subjects, as is found in the early Vedic literature, is now interpreted by the canonical works in the sense that the king as a part of his most important function must try to maintain the *status quo* of the varṇāśrama and that he must, at all costs, try to prevent the recurrence of the varṇasaṃkara during the course of his regime. It is this that the Dharma-śāstra works generally mean by their insistence on the king's duty to protect dharma and the people. Kātyāyana also expresses his views in the same manner.<sup>19</sup> According to GHOSHAL this was a necessary corollary to their theory of the divine origin of the king.<sup>20</sup> Ideas such as those of the king being the servant of his people and that the king's duty of protection is his service for the payment of taxes by the people are also expressed in the Dharma-sūtra of Baudhāyana,<sup>21</sup> in Manu<sup>22</sup> and occasionally in the Mbh<sup>23</sup> and later works,<sup>24</sup> but they do not seem to have secured general support.<sup>25</sup>

The Vāyu, similarly, emphasizes, by way of incidental reference, the duty of the king to protect his people. But there is nothing in the Vāyu references to confirm the contention of GHOSHAL that this duty of protection is a necessary corollary to the theory of the divine origin of the king. The story of Pṛthu, however, is interesting. We do not find there any allusion to king's duty to protect his people. On the other hand we find the people asking the newly consecrated king to offer them means of sustenance. The definition of the king (*rājan*) in the story makes him a "pleaser" without any idea of protection. But in the case of Vena, the predecessor of Pṛthu, we find the sages reminding him of his former promise to protect the people; and here we do not find even a trace of an idea that Vena regarded himself as a creation of the Divine or as the Divinity itself.

The repeated occurrence of the expression dharmas in connection with kings in the Purāṇa may make us infer that the Purāṇa has come greatly under the influence of the Dharma-śāstra ideas.

17. CHT, 1. 95, 18. GHOSHAL, 41, 63; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 102.

20. GHOSHAL, 97.

19. GHOSHAL, 63.

21. Ibid. 65. BANERJEA, *Public Administration in Ancient India*, 72-3; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 155.

22. Ibid., 185 fn.

23. Ibid.

24. Such as Śukra-nīti etc. cf. JAYASWAL, 2, 163.

25. GHOSHAL, 65 fn.

**Kings and Daṇḍa:** We have no information on the technical sense of the word *daṇḍa* in the Vedic literature. The earliest reference to *daṇḍa*, technically so called, is found in the *Artha-śāstra* of Kauṭilya. Kauṭilya mentions a science (*vidyā*) *daṇḍa-nīti* about the exact connotation of which there has been a divergence of views amongst scholars. JAYASWAL takes it to mean "the Ethics of the Executive"<sup>26</sup> and GHOSHAL differs from him.<sup>27</sup> According to GHOSHAL, Kauṭilya himself gives its two senses, viz. (i) etymological—the art of punishment and (ii) broadly as the art of government. According to him Kauṭilya does not use *artha-śāstra* and *daṇḍa-nīti* as convertible terms as is found in the later literature on that subject.<sup>28</sup> D. R. BHANDARKAR, however, takes *daṇḍa-nīti* and *artha-śāstra* both as meaning the science of Polity which he says must have been known in at least the 7th cent. B.C., if not earlier.<sup>29</sup> We are again told that the expression *daṇḍa-nīti* of Kāuṭilya means the art and science of government which later on came to be known as *artha-śāstra*, *rāja-dharma*, *rāja-nīti*, *nīti-śāstra*, etc.<sup>30</sup>

The *Manu-smṛti* also mentions *daṇḍanīti* as a science (or *vidyā*)<sup>31</sup> and deifies it and says that this *daṇḍa* is the *summum bonum* of a state's existence.<sup>32</sup> The purpose of this deification, says JAYASWAL, was simply to bring the king under the rule of law, that is, in short, "the sovereignty of the law is preached with the greatest vigour."<sup>33</sup>

The term *daṇḍa*, technically so-called, figures considerably in the *Mbh.*, especially in the *Sāntiparvan*. Here we find the concept of *daṇḍa* definitely assimilated to its idea of *rāja-dharma*.<sup>34</sup> The same work contains a tale of how the *Daṇḍa-nīti* came to be evolved. Here we are told that lord Brahmā originally created a gigantic treatise called the *Daṇḍa-nīti* which was handed down by him to Śiva who summarised it. From Śiva it came to Indra and then to Uśanas (i.e. Śukra) both of them having summarized it in turn.<sup>35</sup> The same work again works out, rather elaborately, the idea that *daṇḍa* itself is a deity, a conception, as we have seen above, which was familiar with the *Mānava-dharma-śāstra*.<sup>36</sup>

The *Matsya Purāṇa* elevates *daṇḍa* to the rank of different expedients such as *sāma*, *bheda*, *dāna*, etc., to which the king was advised to resort according to circumstances.<sup>37</sup>

26. *Calcutta Weekly Notes*, 15, 875. 27. p. 78.

28. *Ibid.* 29. *Some Aspects of Ancient Hindu Polity*, 5 ff.

30. DIKSHITAR, *Hindu Administrative Institutions*, 2. 31. VII. 43.

32. VII. 17-8; cf. JAYASWAL, 2. 58; DIKSHITAR, *op. cit.*, 10.

33. *Manu and Yajñavalkya, Tagore Law Lectures*, 1917, 81. 34. GHOSHAL, 165.

35. *Ibid.*, 176-7; D. R. BHANDARKAR, *op. cit.*, 21. 36. DIKSHITAR, *op. cit.*, 10.

37. DIKSHITAR, *The Matsya Purāṇa, A Study*, 80.

The Vāyu takes the word *daṇḍa* in the sense of government and says that it is the most important function of a Kṣatriya. It does not deify *daṇḍa* nor does it make such a fetish of it as do *Manu* and the *Mbh.* It mentions *nīti* in association with *Śiva* and *Śukra* but its details are not so elaborate as we find them in the *Mbh.*, nor does it narrate the tale of this *nīti* in connection with the origin of kingship. Again the *Purāṇa* does not expressly refer to *daṇḍanīti* and we are not sure whether we should treat the Vāyu account as having some connection with the one found in the *Mbh.* If it be taken to have such a connection, the Vāyu version of it must be deemed to be earlier. Our *Purāṇa* does not know the other expedients mentioned in the *Matsya* and thus the claim for a higher antiquity of this Vāyu material can be taken for granted. As far as *Kauṭilya* is concerned we are unable to find a basis for its relative chronology with our *Purāṇa*. It may be stated here that the Vāyu, in its enumeration of the eighteen *vidyās* (branches of knowledge), mentions *arthaśāstra* and not *daṇḍanīti*.

**Devolution of Kingship :** In the age of the RV. kingship was normally hereditary and even in the scanty notices of that Veda we can trace lines of succession.<sup>38</sup> The hereditary character of the monarchy is clearly apparent in the later *Samhitās* where in one case, that of the *Śr̥ṇjayas*, we hear expressly of a monarchy which had lasted ten generations.<sup>39</sup> It has been maintained that there are instances in the Vedic literature that kings were sometimes elected to their office.<sup>40</sup> JAYASWAL says that the theory that Hindu kingship is elective was never forgotten, for the observance of the coronation ceremonies and rituals had kept it "ever green".<sup>41</sup> In the *Jātakas* election of the king by the people is nowhere mentioned.<sup>42</sup> According to them hereditary succession to the throne was the general rule.<sup>43</sup> The great epic, however, shows certain instances of the election of a king,<sup>44</sup> but here too we find many instances of hereditary succession.<sup>45</sup>

The Vāyu has no instance of the election of a king and it shows that kingship devolved according to the rules of hereditary succession. The only instance, if any, which may remind us of it is found in the incident of king *Yayāti's* nomination of his successor. The grounds of objection raised by the people and the manner in which His Majesty explained his position to justify his action are the points that deserve our attention. It appears that according to the original tradition contained in the

38. *CHI*, 1. 94.39. *Ibid.* 130.40. JAYASWAL, 2. 5 ff.; BANERJEA, op. cit., 64; DIKSHITAR, op. cit. 68; KEITH quotes the opinions of ZIMMER, WEBER and BLOOMFIELD on this point that kings were sometimes elected, but he refutes their opinions though he states that "that sometimes election actually took place is quite probable". Cf. *CHI*, 1. 94 fn.

41. JAYASWAL, op. cit., 2. 51.

42. FICK, 125.

43. MEHTA, 99.

44. JAOS, 13. 143.

45. *Ibid.*, 317 ff.



Purāṇa the people formerly directed the course of devolution of kingship and that this people's right had been subsequently substituted by the conception of dharma though the formal approval of the people, implied in the Purāṇa reference, preserved itself. The tone of the king's speech and his repeated reference to the fact that the successor nominated by him was the people's favourite reflects the reality of the approval. The excuse of the boon of Śukra is certainly a later polish and appears to be a theoretical attempt by the Purāṇakāra even to do away with this formal approval of the people. It may be stated here that Yayāti was a tribal king of the pre-Vedic period and the tradition of this incident about him might be regarded to have some historical basis.

**Primogeniture :** In the Vedic age the kingdom generally devolved on the eldest son of the deceased king.<sup>46</sup> The same rule prevailed in the age of the Jātakas<sup>47</sup> and later,<sup>48</sup> the Vāyu also shows that generally this rule of primogeniture was followed in matters of succession to the throne. That this was almost the settled law or usage (dharma) in its days appears obvious from the incident which arose out of king Yayāti's nomination of Puru as his consecrated heir.

**Oligarchies :** It has been stated that side by side with the existence of monarchy there existed in the Vedic times other forms of government, such as the oligarchies or the republics.<sup>49</sup> ZIMMER sees traces in one passage of the ṚV. that in times of peace there was no king in some states, the members of the royal family holding equal rights.<sup>50</sup> In the Jātakas, however, we find many oligarchies existing in Eastern India.<sup>51</sup> The Kula-Saṁgha mentioned by Kauṭilya is taken by JAYASWAL to mean an aristocratic state in which the family—apparently the whole royal family—ruled.<sup>52</sup> The law-books, says JAYASWAL, always treat the Kulas as distinct from the Gaṇas, the latter being not based on the hereditary principle as the former was. The distinction however was ignored in later times<sup>53</sup> probably because such forms of government were not known then.

The instances of the first category collected from the Vāyu refer to the actual division of the kingdom, and we find their separate genealogies narrated in the Purāṇa. But the case of Yayāti's sons call for explanation. We have to note that Puru is said to have been consecrated to the heirship of *Svarājya* and that at the same time portions of the kingdom were assigned to his brothers. The exact significance of this term is not clear. It is found in the ṚV. and in the other Vedas. It is the

46. FICK, 123; HOPKINS, *J.AOS.*, 13. 137; *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 211.

47. FICK, *op. cit.*, MEHTA, 99.

48. HOPKINS, *op. cit.*, 139, 317 ff.

49. BANERJEA, *op. cit.*, 42 ff.

50. Quoted in *Ved. Ind.*, 3. 216.

51. RHYE DAVID, 19; FICK, 135 ff.

52. II. 65; cf. also I. 85.

53. I. 85-6,

other technical term for the kings of the west according to the Ait. Br.<sup>54</sup> JAYASWAL says that the *Svarājya*-ruler was taken from amongst the equals and that he was made president.<sup>55</sup> It is difficult to suggest here whether this *Svarājya* of the Ait. Br. has anything to do with the *Svarājya* (another variant is *Svarāṣṭra*) of our Purāṇa. But this much can be said that the reference is peculiarly found in the Vāyu and occurs nowhere else in its text.

The instances of the third category appear to be mythical and even if their value is not discredited they do not add more than what is inferred from those of the first and second categories.

The instance of the second category stands on a different footing. The references to Pracetasas and Śibis suggest that probably here we have some information about the oligarchical form of government mentioned in the Jātakas and the Vedas. The fact that the Purāṇa does not trace their genealogies is full of significance. The other instances, however, use a word Janapada of which we shall see later on.

Kings and Ritual: Of the priest-king<sup>56</sup> we have no evidence in the whole range of the history of Ancient India. In the RV. we find the provinces of the priest and the king already separate.<sup>57</sup> Even the earlier traditions do not hint at the king who was a public magician or a *Shaman*. Nowhere do we find in him the magico-political tribal leader of primitive times. But kings were closely connected with the performance of sacrifices some of which were specially meant for them.

The Rājasūya: The *Rājasūya* is described in the Ś. Br. which mentioned king Pṛthu, as the "first anointed king".<sup>58</sup> The importance of the consecration ceremony is fully realized from the Jātakas according to which also investiture was a condition precedent to the validity of succession.<sup>59</sup> But they show that the ceremony had lost its ritualistic character in Eastern India.<sup>60</sup> This might be due to the anti-ritual policy of Buddhism. It is noteworthy that Kauṭilya mentions Rājasūya only once and that too in a simile.<sup>61</sup> The early Dharma-śāstra works too

54. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 494.

55. 1. 91. BANERJEA, however, refutes the suggestion of JAYASWAL and interprets the term in the sense of "independent kingdom" or "extensive kingdom". Cf. his *Public Administration in Ancient India*, 42. fn. 1.

56. "Students of customs both ancient and modern have long been aware that the line which divides a king from a priest is a very faint one and often disappears altogether. They have therefore coined a term priest-king or king-priest to indicate that doubtful personage of whom it is difficult to say whether he is a priest or a king. He is chiefly to be found in ancient times or in backward communities." Cf. A. M. HOCART, *Kingship*, 119.

57. *ERE*, 7. 720.

58. KEITH, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, *EOS*, 32. 340-3. Cf. JAYASWAL, 2. 14 ff. where he explains fully the ceremony and its constitutional implications and also DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 82 ff.; *JASOS*, 13. 143 ff.

59. *PICK*, 128 ff. 60. *MEHTA*, 105. 61. *Trans.* p. 300. See also *Ind. Verb.*

describe the Rājasūya sacrifice. According to them only the Kṣatriyas are entitled to perform the sacrifice and Jaimini says that even Brahmins cannot perform it.<sup>62</sup> JAYASWAL tells us that the Purāṇas do not count the pre-coronation years of Aśoka's reign while they are included in the total for the dynasty; thus he suggests that Aśoka had performed the ceremony.<sup>63</sup> "The legalism about coronation was so strong that Kālidāsa in drafting Puṣyamitra's letter to Agnimitra takes care not to describe Puṣyamitra as king. The preparations for coronation by Rājasūya were still in progress and coronation had not yet taken place. He was not therefore king *de jure*."<sup>64</sup> JAYASWAL further states that the coronation ceremony was performed for the Emperor Khāravela in his 24th year and here he mentions the Rājasūya sacrifice,<sup>65</sup> but his reading of the word 'Rājasūya' in the Hāthigumphā inscription is not accepted by other scholars.<sup>66</sup> The earliest inscriptional reference to the performance of Aśvamedha is from the Ghasundi inscription of the Chhattisgarh Division of 1st cent. B.C.<sup>67</sup> and slightly later we find in the Deccan a Sātavāhana king to have performed the Rājasūya and Aśvamedha sacrifices.<sup>68</sup> These instances belie the boast of Samudragupta who claims to be "the restorer of the Aśvamedha that had long been in abeyance",<sup>69</sup> and consequently the contention that the Brahmanical revival began its vigorous career in the time of the Guptas has to be modified.<sup>70</sup>

Most of the instances of coronation ceremonies of the Vāyu are mentioned in connection with kings not belonging to the Dynasties of the Kali Age, and the Vāyu states that in the Kali Age these ceremonies 'will' cease to be performed. This Vāyu statement has to be explained in the light of inscriptional evidence. We have to note that Kauṭilya does not regard rājasūya and aśvamedha as important sacrifices. The Vāyu states it categorically that Mahāpadma Nanda was a Śūdra Emperor after whom all kings 'will be' Śūdras. After Mahāpadma no king is recorded by the Vāyu to have performed consecration. We have again statements in the Purāṇa equating the merits of the performance of the rājasūya and aśvamedha with gifts in śrāddha, thus probably making us infer that these sacrifices were no longer performed. The Vāyu estimation of its later kings that they 'will be' practically Yavanas in point of ideas of dharma, artha and kāma and that they will not be "sprinkled on their heads" is suggestive of an age—especially a period when foreigners were pouring in boards into the plains of India and

62. KANE, 2, 153, 1214 ff. 63. 2, 53; cf. also JBORS, 1, 93.

64. JAYASWAL, 2, 53. 65. JBORS, 3, 438.

66. Cf. BARUA, *Old Brāhmī Inscriptions*, 15, 53. 67. EI, 22, 203.

68. ASWI, 5, 60; cf. D. R. BHANDARKAR, *Volumes of Eastern and Iranian Studies presented in honour of F. W. Thomas*, 29-30., cf. also JIE, 22, 1-6.

69. FLEET, *Gupta Inscriptions*, 28. 70. JIE, 1941, 1-6.

establishing principalities. We know from the political history of ancient India that these conditions are best reflected in a few centuries after the fall of the great Mauryan Empire. But why should the Vāyu not mention the rājasūya and āśvamedha sacrifices which are said to have been performed according to the evidence of the inscriptions? The answer is found in the fact that the Vāyu—and also the Purāṇic tradition in general—was not prepared to regard the kings who ruled after the Nandas as being Kṣatriyas<sup>71</sup> and thus it could not entertain the possibility that these kings could rightfully perform the coronation ritual. It is clear that the Purāṇa is here relying on the authority of the law-texts according to which only the Kṣatriyas can perform such sacrifices.

**The Āśvamedha :** The Horse-sacrifice was performed by kings who were successful in their conquest of the quarters.<sup>72</sup> The Jātakas do not show instances of the performance of āśvamedha. Kauṭilya mentions it only once in a simile.<sup>73</sup> The Mbh., however, gives many instances of the performance of the ritual.<sup>74</sup> The inscriptional evidence has been pointed out above.

The same observations that are made in connection with the rājasūya apply here. The statement that a muttering of a mātṛā of *om* is more meritorious than monthly performance of āśvamedha for a hundred years is significant. It appears that āśvamedha was no longer performed and had fallen low in general estimation.

**Vājapeya :** The Vājapeya sacrifice was originally the proper ritual for an emperor but later on it became only a preliminary ceremony to the ritual of rājasūya.<sup>75</sup> It was probably not of a political nature in its origin and became later associated with the Brahmins only.<sup>76</sup> We hear nothing about it from the Jātakas and Kauṭilya does not mention it. This sacrifice was befitting a great emperor and the great imperialist Kauṭilya should not have mentioned it is a fact which is full of meaning.

The Vāyu gives one reference of the performance of these sacrifices by king Pravīra. But it is difficult to arrive at any conclusion from this single instance.

## II. POPULAR INSTITUTIONS

*Samiti*, as an assembly of the people, is mentioned in the RV. and in the later Saṃhitās we still find its power felt by the sovereign though traces of the decline of its political influence are also observable.<sup>77</sup> ~~That~~ That the institution did not far outlive the later Vedic age...is borne

71. Cf. *AIHT*, 226-8.

72. BANERJEA, 92. cf. KEITH, op. cit., 343 ff. for the details of the ritual.

73. *Trans.* p. 294. 74. *JAOS*, 13. 75. DIKSHITAR, 82; BANERJEA, 90 ff.

76. JAYASWAL, 2, 14; DIKSHITAR, 86; BANERJEA, 92.

77. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 430; for detailed discussion on 'Samiti' cf. JAYASWAL, 1, 11-6; BANERJEA, op. cit., 94 ff.; R. C. MAJUMDAR, *Corporate Life in Ancient India*, 113 ff.; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 152 ff.

out by the Pāraṅkara Gṛhya Sūtra which treats the Samiti evidently as a reminiscence."<sup>78</sup>

In the Vāyu we have only one reference to the Samiti which most probably means "an assembly". But whether we should relate this Samiti with the Samiti of the Vedic age we are not sure as the Purāṇa gives no other elucidatory details about it.

*Sabhā*: The term 'Sabhā' is often mentioned in the RV. "but its exact character is not certain". It meant an 'assembly' of the Vedic Indians as well as the 'hall' where they met in assembly."<sup>79</sup> "The rise of the Sabhā," says JAYASWAL, "is to be dated like that of the Samiti in the latest period of the R̥gveda. Its career is co-extensive with that of the Samiti."<sup>80</sup> Thus with the close of the Vedic period the *institution* Sabhā passed into oblivion though traces of its popular origin could still be found in the later times in the judicial Sabhā of the king.<sup>81</sup>

The Sabhā of the Vāyu suggests a later connotation of the term having its origin in the sense 'hall' of the word in the Vedic times. The significance of the "four Sabhās" cannot be for the present made out as we are not aware of such a use of the term in the other ancient sources on the topic of Sabhā. It should be noted that all these references to Sabhā are found in the portions other than the genealogical lists of the Purāṇa.

In the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa we find two references to the Sabhā. In the first reference we find *sabhā* and *samśad* as synonyms and here Sabhā apparently means an "assembly" in which Kṛṣṇa is reported to have made a speech addressed to Akrūra in connection with the Syamantaka jewel. It should be noted that JAYASWAL takes the Sātvatas,—amongst whom Kṛṣṇa was born, as a republican tribe known to the Ait. Br. and their character as a republican tribe is clearly indicated in descriptions about them in the Mbh.<sup>82</sup> "In the tradition quoted in the Mahābhārata, the party of Akrūra is bitterly complained against by Kṛṣṇa"<sup>83</sup> and we have also the epic stating that Kṛṣṇa's "heart was roasted by terrific speeches."<sup>84</sup> Our Purāṇa no doubt refers to the same matters as quoted from the Mbh. and thus corroborates the tradition known to the great epic. It is interesting to observe that according to the story told in our Purāṇa all the attempts of Kṛṣṇa to get possession of the jewel were of no avail and he could secure it only by addressing Akrūra straight in the assembly of the Sātvatas. That such a powerful

78. JAYASWAL, 1. 15.

79. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 426. For detailed discussion on 'sabhā' see JAYASWAL, 1. 17-21; BANERJEA, op. cit., 94 ff.; R. C. MAJUMDAR, op. cit., DIKSHITAR, op. cit., and cf. also references given in footnotes in *Ved. Ind.*, op. cit.

80. JAYASWAL, 1. 20.

81. *Ibid.*

82. 1. 39, 191 ff.

83. 1. 42.

84. 1. 176.

personality, as Kṛṣṇa was, should have resorted to an expedient of addressing him in the assembly for obtaining the possession of the jewel cannot be said to be without any significance about the constitution of the Sātvatas.<sup>85</sup> PARGITER says that "real difficulties occur with regard to Andhaka's and Vṛṣṇi's descendants" and their genealogical lists are very often confused in the Purāṇas, including, of course, the Vāyu. The Andhaka-Vṛṣṇis were one of the six republics known to Pāṇini and JAYASWAL claims that they were the same as the Sātvatas of the Purāṇas<sup>86</sup> and that they were a republican tribe. The confusion about their 'genealogies' in the Purāṇas might have been, partly at least, due to this fact which the Purāṇa redactors probably did not know.

We do not know from other sources whether the Nāgas were a republican people, having a representative institution such as the Sabhā. The Vāyu has no detailed information about them so as to enable us to discuss this reference to Sabhā further.

Gaṇa: As early as the later Vedic period, we find a reference to gaṇa as a corporate organization amongst the Vaiśyas.<sup>87</sup> In the early Buddhist works the term gaṇa occurs in a technical sense signifying a republic<sup>88</sup> and JAYASWAL says that Pāṇini too used the word in the same sense.<sup>89</sup> The term gaṇa, technically so called, is also mentioned in the Dharma-sāstra works<sup>90</sup> and JAYASWAL quotes a passage from the Mbh. regarding the exact significance of gaṇa known to the epic.<sup>91</sup> "By the time of the legal commentators, gaṇas, as political institutions had long ceased to exist."<sup>92</sup>

The term gaṇa, in addition to its general collective sense, is mentioned in the Purāṇa also in a technical sense. We find gaṇa mentioned in connection with Daityas and Rākṣasas and what is interesting to notice here is the hereditary principle on which a gaṇa is named. The mention of Jāti in the same connection should also be noted. For want of similar evidence from other sources we are forced to defer this point to later investigation. To discuss the matter here is to involve ourselves in a controversy whether the Rākṣasas, Daityas, etc., of the tradition were non-Aryans or merely the demons of human imagination. The same observation may be, for the present, made with regard to the gaṇas of the Mlecchas existing in the various continents (*dvīpas*

85. Kṛṣṇa is mentioned in the Purāṇa also as "Vāsudeva-purogama" (Vā 86. 28) [according to Kha, Gha and Na only] and as being afraid of "division in the community" (jāti-bheda) (Vā. 96. 85-7) etc., thus suggesting that he was a "leader" or "head" of his tribe, clan or party.

86. 1. 39. 87. R. C. MAJUMDAR, op. cit., 12.

88. JAYASWAL, 1. 26-8; cf. also RHYS DAVIDS. 89. Op. cit.

90. R. C. MAJUMDAR, op. cit., 142 ff.; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 347; D. R. BHANDARKAR, op. cit., 105 ff.

91. 1. 30. 125 ff.

92. *Ibid.*

of the earth. But if any reliance is kept on these references we are led to infer that *gaṇa* was a sort of organisation known to the Purāṇic tradition to be existing amongst the "non-Aryans" also. The reference to *gaṇa* in connection with śrāddha definitely means some kind of organization, whether political or religious we cannot say. The nature of the reference suggests that *gaṇas* did exist then. The information on *gaṇa*, in connection with the story of Yājñavalkya, clearly shows *gaṇa* as a corporate organization in religious matters for the existence of which we have no definite evidence in the Vedic literature.<sup>93</sup> The power and functions of this *gaṇa* are evident from the story narrated in this connection. *Samayas*, meaning the laws of *gaṇas*, are mentioned in the Dharma-śāstra works<sup>94</sup> and the use of this term in the reference under discussion may be noted accordingly.

In the last category of references we find *gaṇas* of Kṣatriyas mentioned and here it appears we have something to do with the political 'gaṇa' (i. e. republic) of JAYASWAL. It should be noted that in section XIII of Rock Edicts of Aśoka we find a reference to Nābhā-paṅktis which according to JAYASWAL means "a league of Nābhas." Pāṇini mentions Nabhāka and JAYASWAL says that he is unable to identify this Nabhāka. The Ūrna-Nābhas are mentioned as a republican tribe by Pāṇini. JAYASWAL, however, concluded that "Nabhāka was probably a national title derived from the Nābha people".<sup>95</sup>

Our Purāṇa mentions Nābhāga as a name of a Kṣatriya-gaṇa with a strength of one thousand. The ṚV. mentions Nābhāka, i. e. "a descendant of Nabhāka" as a name of a sage<sup>96</sup> and PARGITER takes him to be the same as Nabhāga, son of Vaivasvata Manu, of the Purāṇic tradition.<sup>97</sup> The descendants of this Nābhāga are not mentioned in the Purāṇas<sup>98</sup> and the reason for this omission according to PARGITER is that probably "their line played no part in traditional history".<sup>99</sup> But it appears that the "omission" in the Purāṇas of the genealogy of the Nābhāgas is quite natural for they had formed a republican tribe whose genealogy the Purāṇic tradition could not have apparently handed down to posterity. This suggestion becomes more probable from the observations of JAYASWAL quoted above—the more so if we, with PARGITER, identify Nabhāka of the ṚV. with the Nabhāga of the Purāṇic tradition.

The same is probably the reason why the descendants of Dhṛṣṭa, brother of Nabhāga, are also not mentioned in the Purāṇa;<sup>100</sup> for the Vāyu also mentions "a Dhārṣṭaka gaṇa of three thousand Kṣatriyas," so named after Dhṛṣṭa, brother of Nabhāga. But about them we have

93. Cf. R. C. MAJUMDAR, op. cit., 13.

95. 1. 145.

98. *Ibid.*, 98.

96. *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 442.

99. *Ibid.*, 256.

94. JAYASWAL, 1. 124.

97. *AIHT*, 255.

100. *Ibid.*, 256.

no other corroborative information for the present. The republic of the Bhojas has been described by JAYASWAL from the evidence of other sources and the Vāyu may be said to be corroborating JAYASWAL's conclusions regarding their being a republican tribe.<sup>101</sup> About the other Kṣatriya gaṇas mentioned in the Purāṇa we have no corroborative evidence for the present.

*Janapadas*: The term 'jana' is used in the RV. and later, in the sense of 'a tribe' or 'people'.<sup>102</sup> The term 'janapada', however, occurs first in the Brāhmaṇas denoting both the 'people' as opposed to the king and the 'land' or 'realm'. The 'subjects' are also denoted there by the adjectival 'jānapada'.<sup>103</sup> JAYASWAL says that the term 'janapada' originally meant the seat of the nation "and was secondarily employed as denoting the nation itself". According to him this original sense of the term was lost in later literature where it generally came to signify "the province" or "the country".<sup>104</sup> The expression 'jānapada', a derivative form of janapada, is mentioned in the Pāli Canon, in the epics and in inscriptions and JAYASWAL tells us that modern writers have wrongly taken the word as meaning "the people of the Janapada". "It really means", he continues, "the whole area of a kingdom minus the capital constitutionally". In support of this contention he further adds, "the technical significance of the jānapada as a collective institution has now been established by Khāravela's inscription of 165 B.C."<sup>105</sup> But this interpretation of the term has been objected to by N. N. LAW who says that in all the cases where JAYASWAL sees a technical jānapada he finds only "the people of the country meant".<sup>106</sup> It has been however contended that in some cases the term may signify what LAW means but "to totally deny the existence of such organized bodies of citizens is to miss the mark altogether".<sup>107</sup>

The Vāyu uses the term very frequently as a geographical term meaning a particular territory or region. But occasionally we find the expression used to signify a 'people' or 'tribe' also. Only at two places the Purāṇa uses the term Paura-Jānapada and these instances of the use of the term occur in the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa. There is reason to believe, that here we have the jānapada, technically so called, of JAYASWAL. The repeated reference by the king Yayāti to the fact that the successor nominated by him (contrary to the provisions laid down by ancient usage) was well-disposed to the Paura-Jānapadas suggests that His Majesty was trying to justify his position under

101. See 1. 39. 102. *Ved. Inā*, 1. 269. 103. *Ibid.*, 273.

104. 2. 61-2. JAYASWAL, however, has not discussed the use of the terms 'jana' and 'janapada' of the Vedic literature quoted above. He, on the contrary, attempts to show that the "jānapada" assembly of the post-Vedic times was an "incarnation" of the Vedic Samiti. Cf. *Ibid.*, 62.

105. *Ibid.* 106. *IHQ*, 2. 385 ff. 107. DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 157.



some pressure. It should be noted that here the Paura-Jānapadas are also referred to as "representatives (?) of the people with the Brahmins to lead them" and the passage concludes with the formal approval of the Paura-Jānapadas. The other reference to Paura-Jānapada in connection with king Janamejaya, too, suggests that they were the powerful organizations capable of making "the heads that wear the crown" feel uneasy. If this be not the case there is no other reason why the Purāṇa should at all refer to them in the course of narration.

**Paura :** JAYASWAL says that "the Paura was a communal association in which was vested the municipal administration of the capital" and that it also exercised great constitutional powers.<sup>108</sup> It was according to him "a twin-sister of the Jānapada in constitutional matters. The two are almost mentioned together, and sometimes one stands for both".

The two instances of Paura-Jānapadas mentioned in the Vāyu may be said to confirm the views of JAYASWAL. We have, however, one instance of the word "Paura" occurring alone. It is not clear whether here Paura stands for both the Paura and the Jānapada; nor are we sure whether we should take the Paura of this reference as signifying "a corporate association" of the capital.<sup>109</sup> Any way we have here a good case of the influence of public opinion on the sovereign who had to expel his son for the latter's activities prejudicial to the Pauras.

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108. 2. 70. For LAW's objection to this interpretation also cf. *op. cit.*; cf. also DIKSHITAR, *op. cit.*, regarding his comments on LAW's objection.

109. 2. 68.

## CHAPTER IV

## RELIGION

### I. ŚAIVISM

Maheśvara, the Supreme God: Rudra is a minor god of the Ṛgvedic pantheon. He is celebrated in only three hymns of that Veda and his name is mentioned slightly less often than that of Viṣṇu.<sup>1</sup> In the later Saṁhitās Rudra has become, along with Viṣṇu, one of the two great gods of the Brahmins.<sup>2</sup> The Vājasaneyi Saṁhitā (Chapter 16) mentions many epithets of the god, such as, *Gīṛīśa, Paśupati, Kapardin, Śarva, Bhava, Śiva and Śaṁbhu* and there he is also referred to as wearing hide-skin garments. The name Mahādeva of the god is also found elsewhere in the same Saṁhitā (Chapter 39).<sup>3</sup> In the AV. the conception of Rudra is further developed and he is elevated to a higher platform. We find here more names for the god which are also addressed as separate deities.<sup>4</sup> A reference to the cult of Rudra by the Vṛātyas has been seen as the explanation of the curious Vṛātya hymn of the AV.<sup>5</sup> but KEITH,<sup>6</sup> and HOPKINS<sup>7</sup> regard this view as untenable. In the Brāhmanas we find the power of Rudra at its height. The gods even are afraid of him lest they be killed by the god.<sup>8</sup> It is, however, in the Śvetāśvatara Up. that we find Śiva alone in the field as the supreme god and the germs of Bhakti or love which manifested themselves at that time were directed mostly towards him.<sup>9</sup> R. G. BHANDARKAR considers this work to be earlier than the Bhagavad-gītā.<sup>10</sup> In this Upaniṣad the god is mentioned as the creator and destroyer of the world. Certain Yoga-processes are here prescribed for the purposes of proper meditation of the Supreme Soul and the treatise ends with an expression of self-surrender to the god.<sup>11</sup> But this Upaniṣad is not a sectarian work and there is no evidence in the work of the existence of a Śaivite sect which worshipped Śiva as its favourite god.<sup>12</sup> The Gṛhya-sūtras, too, do not testify to the existence of a Śaivite sect.<sup>13</sup> From the days of Patañjali onwards, the existence of some Śaiva sects can be taken for granted.<sup>14</sup> In the 'earlier' portions

1. MACDONELL, *Vedic Mythology*; cf. also KEITH, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, HOS, 31, 142 ff.

2. KEITH, op. cit., 143.

3. R. G. BHANDARKAR, 103.

4. *Ibid.*

5. CHARPENTIER, *VOY*, 23, 151 ff.; 25, 355 ff.

6. Op. cit., 149-50.

7. *Epic Mythology*, 231; fn. 2. Cf also C. V. N. AYYAR, *Origin and Early History of Śaivism in South India*, 17 ff, where a view similar to that of CHARPENTIER is advocated.

8. KEITH, op. cit., 144.

9. BHANDARKAR, 106 ff.

10. Pp. 110-111.

11. *Ibid.*, 110.

12. Op. cit.

13. *Ibid.*, 115; cf. also V. M. APTE, *Social and Religious Life in the Gṛhyasūtras*.

14. BHANDARKAR, 115 ff.

of the Mbh, we find both the sects, namely, the Śaivites and the Vaiṣṇavites existing without much antagonism between them, but in the later parts of the epic such antagonism is clearly traceable.<sup>15</sup>

Judging from the above discussion our Purāṇa shows traces of sectarian sentiments. We find attempts made, in some places, to humiliate the position of Viṣṇu. It should be noted, however, that these references occur mostly in connection with stories narrated about the god and the philosophical portion of the Purāṇa does not include any of them. Again these references do not suggest the violently sectarian character of the Purāṇa testifying to an actual antagonism between the two sects of the Vaiṣṇavas and the Śaivas and we may state here that the Vāyu in this respect falls more in line with the earlier portions of the Mbh. than with its later parts. This will be obvious when we discuss the important stories told about Śiva in our text.

**Rudra, the Malevolent :** The Rudra of the ṚV. is a fierce god destructive like a wild beast.<sup>16</sup> In the whole range of Vedic literature there are many instances indicating his malevolent character, though we find him here and there emerging as a great god capable of bestowing good on those that pray to him. Even up to the time of the Gṛhya-sūtras this darker side of the nature of this god was never forgotten and we find a sacrifice called Śūlagava mentioned in these works which was meant to appease him.<sup>17</sup> With the growth of religious sentiments which exalted Śiva as a supreme god this darker side of his nature began to recede in the background though it was never wiped out altogether.

Of the demonical qualities of the god Śiva the Vāyu is not so elaborate as it is on indicating his supremacy. The Purāṇa nowhere indicates that the wrath of the god should be appeased and it appears from the Purāṇa that in this respect tendencies exist posterior in time to that of the Gṛhya-sūtras.

**Names of Śiva :** Most of the names of Śiva are found mentioned in the later Saṁhitās and the Brāhmaṇas.<sup>18</sup> In the Mbh. many more names of the gods are mentioned.<sup>19</sup> The story of the eight names occurs in the Ś. Br. and in the Kauṣītaki-Brāhmaṇa where Rudra is mentioned as the son of Uṣas and the names are given to him by Prajāpati.<sup>20</sup> The eight names of these texts are Rudra, Śarva, Ugra, Aśani,

15. HOPKINS, op. cit., 220.

16. For the malevolent qualities of Rudra cf. MACDONELL, op. cit., KEITH, op. cit., 142 ff.; BHANDARKAR, 102 ff., *Rudra-Śiva*, 6-8.

17. BHANDARKAR, 105; V. M. APTE, op. cit.

18. For names of Śiva cf. BHANDARKAR, 102-5; *Rudra-Śiva*, 32 ff.; MACDONELL, op. cit., KEITH, op. cit.

19. HOPKINS, op. cit., 173, 219, 223; cf. also BDCRI, 5. 151-2,

20. BHANDARKAR, 105.

Bhava, Paśupati, Mahādeva and Īāna. The first four of these names denote his destructive energy while the last four may be regarded as its benign counterpart.<sup>21</sup>

The Vāyu gives apparently a later version of the same tale as here we find Brahṁā, instead of Prajāpati of the Brāhmaṇas, giving the eight names to the god. Again the eight names are here slightly changed probably with a view to show the benevolent character of the god. The names Śarva, Aśani of the Brāhmaṇas are dropped and the names Śiva and Ugra introduced. But still in these names we find three which indicate the malignant character of the god and except for the introduction of Śiva there is not much difference in the two lists of names. This probably should indicate that this portion of the Purāṇa is not very much removed in time from the accounts in the Brāhmaṇas.

#### IMPORTANT MYTHS ABOUT ŚIVA

**The Story of Dakṣa's Sacrifice :** The main features of the Dakṣa story are found in the Vedic literature. Dakṣa is mentioned several times in the RV. The Brāhmaṇas also mention Dakṣa as a Prajāpati and a sacrificer. The account of the Dākṣāyāni sacrifice, so called because it was first performed by Prajāpati Dakṣa, is described in the Śatapatha and Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇas. Śiva's exclusion from Dakṣa's sacrifice is also supported by the Vedic evidence but here the cause of Rudra's attack on Dakṣa's sacrifice is quite different. The reason here stated is that Prajāpati Dakṣa had intercourse with his daughter Uṣas and to remedy the evil effects of this the gods created a new being out of their fearful forms. This new being was the Bhūtavan (i. e. Rudra) who was commanded to pierce the Prajāpati and he accordingly carried out the behests of his creators. But in the Vedic evidence we nowhere find a reference to Śiva's marriage with Dakṣa's daughter.<sup>22</sup>

The Rāmāyaṇa has the story in a very simple form and it does not contain any reference to Virabhadra and to Umā, wife of Śiva. Śiva is only said to have wounded the gods.<sup>23</sup> The same story occurs thrice in the Mbh.<sup>24</sup> and Muir has shown that many of the verses in the narration of the Mbh. account of the story are found also in the Vāyu Purāṇa.<sup>25</sup> In one version of the story in the Mbh., Śiva himself puts an end to the sacrifice, while in another version we find Dadhici as a staunch votary of Rudra, warning Dakṣa in a rather lengthy speech about the impudence of his decision in not inviting Śiva for the sacrifice. Both the Mbh. and the Rāmāyaṇa versions of the story, however, do not even remotely allude to Umā's parentage or Dakṣa's relation-

21. Op. cit.

22. Vide, *Rudra-Śiva*, 78-80.

23. Muir, *OST*, 4. 372-3 ; cf. also C. V. N. ATYAR, op. cit., 63 ff.

24. *Ibid.* 373 ff.

25. *Ibid.* 373 fn. 124, 374 fn. 126, 375 fns. 127-9.

ship to her. Thus it would be obvious that the Vāyu version of the story is later than those contained in those two epics, excepting perhaps the lengthy speech of Dadhīci in the Mbh. which appears, in brief, in the Vāyu. Had the Vāyu been a purely sectarian Purāṇa and had it been aware of such a verbose grandiloquence of Dadhīci<sup>26</sup> we would probably not have missed it in our text.

Kālidāsa, however, knew the story about Śiva's wife Satī, who was the daughter of Dakṣa and who put an end to her life owing to the insulting treatment of her father.<sup>27</sup> Thus the Vāyu version of the story can be assigned to the period between that of the Mbh. and Kālidāsa. This becomes more probable when we compare the Vāyu version with those contained in the other Purāṇas<sup>28</sup> which leads us to conclude with WILSON that the narration as found in our Purāṇa "from its inartificial, obscure and uncircumstantial construction is probably of an ancient date."<sup>29</sup>

The Story of how Śiva came to be called Nilakaṇṭha : The RV. gives an account of the powers of a long-haired Muni who drank poison in the company of Rudra<sup>30</sup> and the YV. alludes to the latter's blue neck.<sup>31</sup> The AV. also knows his blue neck.<sup>32</sup> The two facts, namely, (i) the blue neck and (ii) the drinking of poison are, however, not connected in the Vedic literature and the story connecting them is certainly post-Vedic. The Vāyu account connects the two facts but is not very elaborate about the incident itself though it gives a far-fetched account of its transmission. It is not possible for the present to trace its relative chronology with the versions found in the epics and the other Purāṇas as our Purāṇa account appears in an abridged form and does not admit of such a discussion.

#### ŚIVA'S ASSOCIATES

The Bhūtas : The Bhūta of the Vedic literature does not bear the sense of 'demon' until possibly a very late period ; but it denotes beings pure and simple.<sup>33</sup> Rudra as Bhūtapati is mentioned in the AV. but here *bhūta* means simply a "being". But the Buddhist literature knows the Yakṣas and Bhūtas as evil spirits who dwell in cemeteries. It would thus be seen that the Bhūtas, as associates of the god Śiva, is a post-Vedic development. The Mbh., however, knows Bhūtas as followers of Śiva who are also stated to have oppressed Indra.<sup>34</sup> Śiva

26. The existence of this speech in the Mbh. may be due to the "bhṛguisation" of the great epic. Cf. V. S. SUKTHANKAR, *Epic Studies* VI. ABORI, 18.

27. See *Kumārāsambhavam*, Canto I, verse 21.

28. See WILSON, *Translation of the Vāyu Purāṇa*, 61 ff. and notes. The Vāyu version of the tale is translated here and is compared with those occurring in the other Purāṇas which shows a definite sectarian influence.

29. *Ibid.* 61 fn. 1.

30. *Rudra-Śiva*, 18 ; cf. also KEITH, *op. cit.*, 142.

31. KEITH, *op. cit.*

32. *Rudra-Śiva*, *op. cit.*

33. KEITH, *op. cit.*, 133, 214-5.

34. HOPKINS, *Epic Mythology*, 131.

is there called "the Lord of the Bhūtas" which, however, may mean both "the lord of the creatures" or "the lord of the Bhūtas, the demons."<sup>35</sup> The Vāyu gives more information about them and may in this respect suggest the post-epic development.

**The Rudras :** The Rudras of the Vedic literature are not demons, though a view to this effect has also been advocated.<sup>36</sup> In the Vedic literature they figure as the children of Rudra and are identified with the Maruts.<sup>37</sup> In the Mbh. they figure as companions of Indra, servants of Śiva and of his son and also as the escort of Yama who appears as being surrounded by them.<sup>38</sup>

The Vāyu mentions Rudras not so often with Śiva as it does the Bhūtas.

**The Asuras, the Rākṣasas and the Daityas :** They are all of them mentioned in the Vedic literature mostly as demons and evil spirits,<sup>39</sup> but there we do not find a definite evidence about their close association with Rudra.<sup>40</sup> In the Mbh. also they do not figure closely along with Śiva.<sup>41</sup>

For the present we are unable to locate chronologically the information of the Vāyu with regard to this point.

**Munis :** The association of Munis with Rudra is found in the ṚV. But KEITH regards the passage in which the reference to Muni occurs, as curiously isolated in the ṚV. and even in the later Vedic texts, since the aspect of life which may be inferred from the reference does not fall within the outlook of the Vedas.<sup>42</sup> The AV. mentions Keśins (long-haired), who, it is asserted, were the Munis attending upon Rudra.<sup>43</sup> The Mbh. is silent on the special association of Munis with Śiva.

The Vāyu evidence on the matter shows them frequently as devotees of Śiva and it appears that they had something to do with the development of asceticism connected with that deity.

**Śiva's Yoga and Tapas :** Śiva in Mohenjodaro is pre-eminently the prince of Yogis, the typical ascetic and self-mortifier. Like Saivism itself Yoga had its origin among the pre-Aryan population.<sup>44</sup> The existence of this proto-type of Śiva in the Indus civilization is now generally accepted though an objection is raised against the contention that Śiva was at all a non-Aryan god.<sup>45</sup> The term *yoga* in the sense

35. *Ibid.* 37, 142.

36. KEITH, *op. cit.*, 153.

37. *Op. cit.*, 150-1.

38. HOPKINS, *op. cit.*, 173.

39. KEITH, *op. cit.*, 218, 231-4.

40. Rudra is, no doubt, addressed in the Taittiriya Saṁhita (I, iii, 14, 1), but this is not a clear evidence for an association of the god with the Auras.

41. HOPKINS, *op. cit.*, 38 ff., 47 ff.

42. *Op. cit.*, 402.

43. C. V. N. ATYAR, *op. cit.*, 11 ff.

44. *Mohenjodaro*, 1, 52-3.

45. *Rudra-Śiva*.

of "mystic union of the individual with the Absolute" does not occur in the RV. But some glimpses of the crude ideas about Yoga are available from that Veda. We have already noted above the connection of Munis with Rudra and it appears that they were devoted to some kind of primitive cult of Yoga. KEITH regards the passage describing them as somewhat isolated in the RV.<sup>46</sup> It has been also suggested that the forest-tribe of Niśādas are brought into close connection with the Rudra of the RV. and that probably they were his worshippers or their own peculiar gods were identified with the Aryan Rudra. The Munis might have belonged to such tribes as the Niśādas and that is probably the reason why they are not approved of by the priest.<sup>47</sup> The Yatis also figure in the RV. as a tribe or people connected with the Bhṛgu and in the later Samhitās they are mentioned as enemies of Indra and were opposed to the ritual.<sup>48</sup> It appears that there existed a sect of ascetics who propounded an esoteric doctrine opposed to the cult of the ritual and they might have had some connection with Rudra who was a friend and a companion of the Munis.<sup>49</sup> With regard to the Vrātya hymn in the AV. it has been suggested that they were a class of Kṣatriya Yogins devoted to some form of worship of Śiva but this suggestion has been refuted by KEITH as being implausible.<sup>50</sup> If these Munis, Yatis or Vrātyas, as the case may be, signify a non-Aryan people, their predigree with the people of the Indus Valley becomes a tempting assumption. According to FRAZER, the practice of austerities was in great part at least adopted from the aboriginal tribes amongst whom the new-coming Aryans settled.<sup>51</sup> It is probable that Rudra had a parallel in some aboriginal god to whom *tapas* and similar occult powers, such as those of the primitive Yoga, were congenial and the cultural contacts with these tribes led the Aryan thinkers to absorb some of their beliefs and they found in Rudra the capacity to absorb such elements.

The Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad, however, mentions Rudra-Śiva as the Supreme Soul for the perception of which it prescribes certain Yoga processes. Here Rudra is apparently a personal god ; but BHANDARKAR says that the Upaniṣad is not a sectarian treatise and the god Rudra is not here raised to the supreme godhead to the exclusion of another.<sup>52</sup> There is, however, another Upaniṣad, by name Atharvaśiras, which is purely sectarian in character and belonging to the sect of the Pāsupatas. This Upaniṣad is considered by BHANDARKAR as a much later work.<sup>53</sup> Rudra is here mentioned as the Gāyatrī. It expressly mentions the Pāsupata-vrata and the term *paśu-pāśa-vimokṣaṇa* also occurs in it.

46. Op. cit.

47. BHANDARKAR, 103.

48. *Ved. Ind.*, 2, 167-8.

49. KEITH, op. cit., 56.

50. HAUER, quoted by KEITH; op. cit., 148 fn. 1.

51. *ERE*, 2, 88.52. *Cp.* pp. 110-111.53. *Ibid.*

Besides, the muttering of the mātṛā of om̐ is also enjoined to be practised by the Upaniṣad.

The theology of the Upaniṣad offers close resemblance to that of the Vāyu and the account of the avatāras of the latter are undoubtedly connected with the school of Pāsupatas according to which Lakulīśa was the last of the incarnations of Śiva.<sup>54</sup>

The Pāsupata School of Śaivism : The rise of the Pāsupata School is assigned by BHANDARKAR to the period of about 2nd century B.C. The school as such is mentioned in the Nārāyaṇīya section of the Mbh., as one of the five schools of religious doctrines known to it.<sup>55</sup> According to him there lived a certain person of the name of Lakulin (the holder of a *lakuṭa*, or *laguḍa* or *lakula* i.e. a club) who founded the Pāsupata system. "The fact that his rise has been represented by Purāṇas to be contemporaneous with Vāsudeva-Kṛṣṇa points to the inference that traditionally the system was intended to take the same place in the Rudra-Śiva cult that the Pāñcarātra did in the Vāsudeva-Kṛṣṇa cult.<sup>56</sup> The earliest inscriptional evidence regarding the existence of this sect is found in Mathura Pillar inscription of 380-1 A.D.<sup>57</sup> Here we find the teachers of the school mentioned who according to D. R. BHANDARKAR must have been "experts in the Pāsupata Yoga." We must, therefore, presume that they too must have passed away like the Yogins driving away their *prāṇa-vāyu* through the *brahma-randhra*. They must have thereby merged themselves into the godhead of Śiva. This explains why all those departed ascetics of the Lakulīśa sect have received the title of Bhagavat.<sup>58</sup> It should be noted that the inscription shows the Lakulīśa sect having connection with 'liṅga'. On the strength of the evidence of this inscription D. R. BHANDARKAR concludes that it might be considered as "well-nigh proved that Lakulīśa flourished in the first quarter of the first century A.D".<sup>59</sup> Formerly FLEET had also gone so far as to suggest from the evidence of the representation of Śiva with a club on the coins of Huvishka, the Kushan king, that the sect might have had its origin even earlier.<sup>60</sup> The wide diffusion of the sect in the later period is testified by the statements of Varāhamihira and the Chinese traveller Hiuen-Tsiang and the latter gives considerable information about them.<sup>61</sup>

The position of the Vāyu evidence *vis-à-vis* the above discussion is this : It certainly presupposes the contents of the Atharvaśiras Upaniṣad which though "a much later work" knows nothing of the incarnations of Śiva. The close connection of the Vāyu material with that of the Upaniṣad is, however, borne out by the former's elucidation

54. Cf. DIKSHITAR, *Some Aspects of the Vāyu Purāṇa*. 55. BHANDARKAR, 116.

56. *Ibid.* 57. *EI*, 21. 1 ff. 58. *Ibid.* 7. 59. *Ibid.*

60. Cf. *JRAS*, 1907, 424-5 ; cf. also *JBRAS*, 22. 151-3 ; DIKSHITAR, *op. cit.*, 24 ff.

61. BHANDARKAR, 117.



tion of the Pāsupata-vrata, the *mātrā* of *om* and the *gāyatrī*,<sup>62</sup> all of which are intimately associated with Śiva by the Purāṇa. The importance of the Vāyu Purāṇa as containing the earliest reference to the Lakulīśa Pāsupatas has already been noted by D. R. BHANDARKAR who considers the Vāyu version on the incarnations of Śiva as being earlier than that of the Liṅga Purāṇa which too mentions them.<sup>63</sup> The material of the Vayu, again, appears to be earlier than the information found in the Mathurā inscription for the latter associates the cult of Lakulīśa with the Liṅga and the Vāyu does not establish such a connection though it narrates the story of liṅga in a different context.

It would be seen that the earliest reference, though somewhat vague, to the theology of the Pāsupatas is found in the Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad which gives us some rudimentary ideas about the Yoga which seems to have been subsequently known as the Pāsupata Yoga. Our Purāṇa seems to have regarded this work as an authority and it contains two quotations from that Upaniṣad.<sup>64</sup> The table of the incarnations of Śiva may be noted in this connection. It mentions Śveta as the first incarnation of Śiva and the four sons or disciples of god—who were really the teachers of the school—are : Śveta, Śikha [according to other MSS. Śveta], Śvetāśva and Śvetalohita. The emphasis on the word 'Śveta' is unnecessary. It appears that the tradition of the sect regarded Śveta or Śvetāśva as the original founder of the school and the same person might have had some connection with the Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad which was probably named after him. Originally it might not have been a fully developed sect as it came to be in subsequent times especially through the efforts of Lakulin (or Nakulin). The names of the so-called disciples of the god Śiva seem, in some cases, to have a tinge of historicity. The names Kapila, Āsuri, Pañcaśikha and Vāgvali (cf. No. 8) are already noted by Dikshitar who, with regard to Sana, Sanandana (cf. No. 8) and Sanatkumāra, again, tells us that "they belonged to a common school of philosophy which became lost in obscure tradition at a very early period."<sup>65</sup> We may also recall the names of Akṣapāda, Kaṇāda, Ulūka and Vatsa (No. 27). We may further state that Praśastapāda characterises his predecessor Kaṇāda "as having composed the Vaiśeṣika-śāstra after propitiating Mahāvara by the greatness of his Yoga,"<sup>66</sup> and on the strength of this information R. G. BHANDARKAR had conjectured long ago that this "Kaṇāda, therefore, may have been a follower of the Pāsupata or Saiva system".<sup>67</sup> We may here venture a suggestion that the same Kaṇāda is referred to in this Vāyu list of teachers. The fact that the Kaṇāda of the Vāyu was the immediate predecessor of Lakulin may be

62. See Vāyu Chapter on *Om Mātrā*.

64. Cf. DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 13.

66. BHANDARKAR, 117.

63. JBBRAS, 1908, 151.

65. Op. cit., 27.

67. *Ibid.*

chronologically suggestive though we need not be dragged into the matter for the present. It is further interesting to note that the hierarchy of teachers mentioned in the Vāyu shows some resemblance with those mentioned in the Mathurā inscription.<sup>68</sup>

**Siva and Liṅga:** The phallus-worshippers are twice referred to with disapproval in the RV.<sup>69</sup> and it has been maintained that this phallus-worship was probably of prehistoric age in India. By the "phallus worshippers" of the RV. apparently the aborigines are meant and it has been generally asserted that the people of the Indus Civilization also were the followers of this cult.<sup>70</sup> The term "liṅga", however, appears first in the Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad which says that Īśāna presides over every yoni and here the "liṅga" is directly affiliated to the god Śiva,<sup>71</sup> but BHANDARKAR is not sure whether this should be regarded as a characteristic of the worship of Śiva in the days of the Upaniṣads.<sup>72</sup> He further states that even in the days of Patañjali and Wema Kadphises such a worship was unknown.<sup>73</sup> By the time of the Mbh., however, it had already won its way into the orthodox Hindu Cult.<sup>74</sup> The Mathurā Pillar Inscription of 380-1 A.D. shows that liṅgas in honour of Upaniṣvara and Kapileśvara (i.e. with their portraits carved on the liṅgas) were installed in the Teacher's Shrine. These teachers belonged to the Lakuliśa sect. Thus the existence of the liṅga-worship appears to have existed in the 4th cent. A.D. connected particularly with the Lakuliśa Pāsupatas.<sup>75</sup>

In the Vāyu, however, there is no mention of liṅga in connection with Lakuliśa, the last of the incarnations of Śiva. There is, however, a separate chapter in the Purāṇa devoted to the story of liṅga. But the description of the liṅga given in this story does not allude to the physical fact of liṅga being connected with the yoni and we are not sure whether we should see here in the liṅga, "the phallus". There is no doubt a reference to the upper and lower extremities of the liṅga which Brahmā and Viṣṇu tried to reach but this does not establish that the liṅga here means the "phallus". The description of this liṅga as a shining object enveloped with flames is significant in so far as we are reminded of fire out of which the liṅga arose. There is a view<sup>76</sup> that the phallic emblem "grew naturally out of the sacrificial cult

68. *EI*, 21. 6 ff

69. *CHI*, 1. 85; cf. also KEITH, op. cit., 10; BHANDARKAR 115; MUIR, *OST*, 4. 411, however does not think that the term "śānadevīḥ" of the RV. implies the existence of such a worship. Cf. also C. V. N. AYYAR, op. cit., 49 ff. and *Rudra-Śiva*, 36 ff.

70. *Mohenjodaro*, 1. 48-9. But this thesis has been opposed in *Rudra-Śiva*, 39 ff.

71. BHANDARKAR, 114 fn. 1.

72. *Ibid.* 114.

73. *Ibid.* 115, cf. *Rudra-Śiva*, 36 fn. 68 where a claim is made to have found an archaic liṅga of 2 cent. B.C. in South India.

74. *CHI*, 1. 85.

75. *EI*, 21. 9.

76. *Rudra-Śiva*, 54-5.

and fastened itself upon Rudra on account of his close association with Agni". The author of this thesis quotes with approval references from the Ś. Br. in support of his theory and the Vāyu evidence may be said to be equally confirming this view.

The other references of the Purāṇa to liṅga, however, suggest that liṅga meant a 'phallus' but still here there is no indication whatsoever that it was an object of worship and the interpretation of this liṅga can be the same as the one found mentioned in the Śvetāśvatara Upaniṣad. On the whole it can be stated that the Vāyu does not know the worship of liṅga as such and consequently its material in this respect may be said to ante-date the age of the Guptas.

Skanda-Kārttikeya : The name Kumāra occurs in the RV. and also in the Brāhmanas denoting the god Agni and not Skanda.<sup>77</sup> The earliest reference to Skanda is found in the Ch. Up. where he is identified with Sanatkumāra.<sup>78</sup> The Atharvaśiras Upaniṣad also mentions the god Skanda. But in these references to Skanda we do not find him connected with Śiva.<sup>79</sup> The Skanda of the great epic does not appear as a later addition but as a god rapidly increasing in importance. In the Pāraskara Gṛhya Sūtra we find the mention of a demon-cough in the form of a dog, named as Kumāra.<sup>80</sup> The same work again mentions Mahāśena as a disease-demon and here Mahāśena is an epithet of Skanda.<sup>81</sup> His sonship is debated in the epic but his connection is not lost sight of. The story of his birth is narrated in the epic at length<sup>82</sup> and it is considered to be an earlier version than those generally found in the Purāṇas as Śiva does not find a place in the story.<sup>83</sup> In the Mbh. we do not find his name Subrahmanya mentioned,<sup>84</sup> nor does he figure there as a demon, though his followers are often said to be imps and disease-demons.<sup>85</sup> Patañjali mentions the images of Śiva, Skanda and Viśākha as being worshipped in his time<sup>86</sup> and the existence of the worship of this god seems to have developed further in the days of the Guptas.<sup>87</sup> The names of the Gupta emperors such as Kumāragupta and Skandagupta are adduced as evidence indicating the flourishing state of the Śaivite sect in which Skanda had entered as a pet deity. It should be noted that even the seven mātṛkās, the female attendants of the god, had become objects of worship in these days.<sup>88</sup> It may also be noted that the name Brahmanya of the god is mentioned in the Gupta inscriptions.<sup>89</sup>

77. *Rudra-Śiva*, 71.

80. KEITH, op. cit., 241.

83. *Rudra-Śiva*, 73.

86. BHANDARKAR, 150.

88. *Ibid.*

78. *Ibid* 73.

81. Op. cit., 242.

84. HOPKINS, op. cit.

87. R. N. SALETORRE, *Life in Gupta Age*, 501.

89. BDCRL 2. 162.

79. *IHQ*, 7. 309 ff.

82. HOPKINS, op. cit., 229.

85. *Ibid.*

In the Vāyu, though Skanda figures as the generalissimo of the gods, there is nothing to indicate that he and the Seven Mothers had become objects of worship. This, in addition to the fact that the name Brahmanya is not mentioned in our Purāṇa, suggests that the Vāyu material is earlier than that of the Gupta inscriptions. The account of the birth of the god as given in our Purāṇa, however, shows that the Vāyu version of the story is later than that of the epic. But the Vāyu also connects the god with demons in a manner in which it is not found in the epics where more stress is laid on his being the military chief of the gods. It appears that this material reflects the condition of beliefs found in the Gṛhyasūtra of Pāraskara.

Gaṇeśa: In the Vedas we find Rudra with his hosts called the Gaṇas whose leader was Gaṇapati. The Taittiriya Brāhmaṇa mentions a god Dantin along with Kārttikeya and Nandi and it is probable that this Dantin was the same as the later elephant-faced god.<sup>90</sup> Besides the Gaṇas, Vināyakas are also associated with Rudra who himself is sometimes called Vināyaka. The Mānava-Gṛhya-Sūtra mentions four Vināyakas who were supposed to possess men and cause them evils and by the time of the Yājñavalkya-Smṛti these four Vināyakas had become one Gaṇapati-Vināyaka.<sup>91</sup> Gaṇeśa is mentioned only at a few places in the Mbh. and he is not here the god Gaṇeśa, for Viṣṇu himself is mentioned as Gaṇeśvara.<sup>92</sup> It should be noted that the invocatory verse with which the epic begins, according to some MSS., has been omitted in the critical edition of the text.<sup>93</sup>

There is no definite evidence of a Gaṇeśa-cult in India before the 5th cent. A D. "There is a sculptural evidence of his popularity from the fifth century onwards, although no inscription has been found referring either to Gaṇeśa or to Gaṇapati as a god until after the Gupta period".<sup>94</sup> The first stage of Gaṇeśa's embryonic existence must have belonged to a far earlier period. The Mathurā school yields us a comparatively early likeness of the deity which FOUCHER is inclined to regard as an archaic image of Gaṇeśa.<sup>95</sup>

In the Vāyu Śiva often appears as attended upon by the Gaṇas, Bhūtas and also by the Vināyakas; but the god Gaṇapati, Gaṇeśa or Gaṇapati-Vināyaka does not at all figure in the Purāṇa. The Purāṇa, however, narrates a story of one Gaṇeśa (also called Gaṇeśvara, Gaṇapati) who appears to have two other names Nikumbha and Kṣemaka (the literal meaning of Kṣemaka should be noted). This Gaṇeśa was a follower of Śiva who commanded him to bring about the expulsion

90. GETTY, *Gaṇeśa*, 1-2.

91. BHANDARKAR, 147-8.

93. *Prologomena*.

92. Hopkins, op. cit., 106, 206.

94. GETTY, op. cit., 10.

95. *Ibid.* introduction, xix. For the sculptural and inscriptional evidence on this matter cf. BDCRI, 1; 5. 150-1.

of king Divodāsa from the city of Vārāṇasī. Here Gaṇeśa appears to be a vegetation deity particularly popular with the lower order of the populace as suggested by the fact that a barber installed his image outside (or at?) the city gates and it was worshipped particularly by women desiring male progeny. His popularity with the lower classes is further suggested by the fact that the king at first hesitated to offer worship to the deity and his desire being unfulfilled he calls the deity in anger *bhūtam* (note the neuter). The place of worship is called the *sthāna* of Gaṇapati. It is noteworthy that this Gaṇeśa (Kṣemaka) is also called Rākṣasa.

The context of this story suggests its antiquity as it involves the ancient king Divodāsa as a victim of Śiva's anger.<sup>96</sup> The features of Śiva here show him as a god of the wild (for he had no dwelling) and comments on his nature by his mother-in-law suggest that he was a lord of the lowly and the paupers. The god Gaṇeśa who was worshipped at the city-gates and whose image was installed by a barber and who is also mentioned as a Rākṣasa appears to have been a god originally of some aboriginal tribe. He was at first worshipped by the lower classes but later on, with the change of fortune in Rudra-Śiva, he also entered upon the stage as one of the first order of divinities among the higher classes also. It is held that Gaṇeśa was originally a kind of demon or "to put it more politely, a jungle genius".<sup>97</sup> Are we then to suppose that this Gaṇeśa, Gaṇeśvara or Gaṇapati who had a name Kṣemaka was a forerunner of the later Vighneśvara Gaṇeśa?

We have already seen how Gaṇeśa emerged as a divinity in about the 5th cent. A.D. and consequently the Vāyu material has to be considered as being considerably earlier.

## II. VAIṢṆAVISM AND THE OTHER SECTS

Vaiṣṇavism : Viṣṇu as a Sectarian God : There are but few hymns addressed to Viṣṇu in the RV. but his personality is by no means unimportant.<sup>98</sup> In the Brāhmaṇas we find clear traces of his rise as a great god.<sup>99</sup> The name Nārāyaṇa occurs in the Ś. Br. but there he is not in any way connected with Viṣṇu<sup>100</sup> and the conception of Nārāyaṇa as the Supreme Being had already been evolved by the end of the Brāhmaṇa period.<sup>101</sup> In the Taittirīya Āraṇyaka, however, we find the name Nārāyaṇa directly related to Viṣṇu.<sup>102</sup> By the time of Pāṇini

96. PARGITER appears to believe in its historicity though in a different connection. Cf. *AIHT*, 263. The Mbh., it should be noted, mentions Kumbha and Nikumbha as the two Rākṣasas. Nikumbha is there called the "Daitya-chief", father of Sunda and Upasunda and Gaṇeśa of Śiva's host, when he slaughtered Saudāsa's army at Benares. Cf. HOPKINS, op. cit., 133.

97. GETTY, *Gaṇeśa*, Introduction p. xx.

98. BHANDARKAR, 33; MACDONELL, *Vedic Mythology*; KEITH, op. cit.

99. *Ibid.* 100. RAYCHAUDHARI, *Early History of the Vaiṣṇava Sect*, 7.

101. BHANDARKAR, 32. 102. RAYCHAUDHARI, op. cit., 9.

the worship of Vāsudeva had become well-known<sup>103</sup> and it appears<sup>104</sup> that Vāsudeva came to be identified with Nārāyaṇa sometime afterwards, as in the Mbh. The evidence of the inscriptions found at Besnagar and Ghosunḍi in Rajputana suggest that the worship of the god Vāsudeva had already gathered a large following so that even the foreigners were attracted to it.<sup>105</sup> The Nārāyaṇīya section of the Mbh. sheds more light on the problem but it is not necessary to state its details here.<sup>106</sup> It is in the Mbh. that we get a definite evidence for the identification of Viṣṇu with Vāsudeva. But still in many parts of the great epic we find a state of things in which the divinity of Vāsudeva-Kṛṣṇa was not generally acknowledged.<sup>107</sup> The story of Kṛṣṇa's boyhood in Gokula was unknown till about the beginning of the Christian era<sup>108</sup> and the Harivaṃśa is probably the earliest authority on the matter.<sup>109</sup>

The Vāyu information no doubt testifies to the worship of Vāsudeva-Kṛṣṇa in whose connection the story of the incarnations of Viṣṇu is narrated in the Purāṇa. There is a reference in the Purāṇa to the five great men of the family of Kṛṣṇa, but here the term Vyūha is not used and we are not sure whether that is to be understood by implication, thus suggesting that our Purāṇa knew of the doctrine of Vyūhas of the Pāñcarātra school.<sup>110</sup> The Vāyu again alludes to the cowherd god, a fact which brings down the antiquity of the chapters containing it, at least to the beginning of the Christian era. But we have to note in this connection that the Vāyu does not further develop the idea probably because it thinks the matter to be within the purview of the Harivaṃśa with which it has much resemblance in certain respects.

Incarnations of the god Viṣṇu: The habit of thought which identifies one god with another is reflected in the Vedas though they had not arrived at the conception of the incarnation of a god.<sup>111</sup> The names Matsya, Kūrma, Varāha, Nṛsimha and the Dwarf (Vāmana) as manifestations of the divine are known to the Brāhmaṇas but here they are not—excepting the Dwarf—identified with Viṣṇu and are, on the other hand, identified with Prajāpati, the Creator.<sup>112</sup> The idea that a creator god appears in an animal form is certainly pre-epic.<sup>113</sup> Tortoise as a representation of Brahman is mentioned in the Ś. Br.<sup>114</sup> and the Fish and the Boar manifestations first belonged to Brahmā.

103. BHANDARKAR, 3; RAYCHAUDHARI, op. cit., 13. 104. BHANDARKAR, 32.

105. Cf. RAMAPRASAD CHANDA, *Archaeology and Vaiṣṇava Tradition*, MASI, 5. 151 ff.; cf. also BHANDARKAR, 3-4.

106. BHANDARKAR, 4 ff. 107. *Ibid* 34-5. 108. *Ibid* 36. 109. *Ibid*.

110. Cf. SCHRADER, *Introduction to the Pāñcarātra System*.

111. BHANDARKAR, 41. 112. *IHQ*, 17. 370-1.

113. HOPKINS, *Epic Mythology*, 217. 114. *Ibid* 29.

The Boar incarnation is not that of Viṣṇu but of Brahmā in the older Rāmāyaṇa and the gods do not at first recognise the Boar-form of Viṣṇu at all.<sup>115</sup> The idea of incarnation is best expounded in the Gītā where it is stated : "Whenever there is a decline of the Law, O Bhārata, and an increase in inequity, then I put forth myself (in a new birth). For the rescue of the pious and the destruction of the evil-doers for the establishment of the Law I am born in every age." (iv, 7 f.). The Mbh. has no systematic account of the avatāras and even in the Harivaṃśa the list is not that of the later ten.<sup>116</sup> The Nārāyaṇīya section of the Mbh. gives first a list of six incarnations and after a short interval it refers to the ten avatāras of the god.<sup>117</sup> It is stated that the later epic alone has the ten avatāras but that they are not always the same. In short, the theory of avatāras is still developing in the epic which represents only a stage in brief where the factors were still not fixed.<sup>118</sup> Among the seven original avatāras the form of boar, man-lion, dwarf and tortoise were the foremost, the three remaining may have been fish, Rāma and Kṛṣṇa. It is only in the later epic that Jāmadagnya Rāma figures as an avatāra, and the Harivaṃśa mentions his function as an avatāra, viz., the annihilation of Kārtavīrya Arjuna. It should be noted that in the early portions of the Rāmāyaṇa, Rāma is only a great hero and not a god.<sup>119</sup>

The Vāyu gives the number of avatāras as ten but its list of these ten is peculiar. It does not include Varāha, Matsya and Kūrma in the list and these are the well-known incarnations of the god in the Purāṇas and also in the later epic.<sup>120</sup> The curse of Bhṛgu mentions seven "descents" of the god and not ten and it appears that the original text had seven incarnations. The fact that one Ms. omits the names of Maṃdhātā and Jāmadagnya Rāma is also significant, for the former is rarely known as an avatāra of Viṣṇu and the latter appears as an incarnation only in the later epic. Again there is an explanation in the Purāṇa which purports to classify the incarnation into two categories, viz., (i) heavenly (ii) earthly, and this tends to confirm the suggestion, already made, that the original Purāṇa knew only the seven incarnations which was probably the case also with the Mbh.<sup>121</sup>

The Conception of the Triad : "Though the RV. does not contain the conception of a supreme spirit manifested in three-forms (trimūrti) which is the doctrine of Trinity, it contains elements which

115. *Ibid.* 197, 205, 210 fn.

116. *Ibid.* 217.

117. BHANDARKAR, 41.

118. HOPKINS, op. cit., 217

119. *Ibid.* For the number of avatāras in other Purāṇas cf. ERE, 7. 193 ; cf. also DIKSHITAR, *Matsya Purāṇa, A Study*, 24 ff. where the author claims to have found the rudimentary notions regarding the theory of evolution ; cf. also *IHQ*, 17. 371.

120. Cf. also *IHQ*, 17. 370 ff.

121. Cf. HOPKINS, op. cit., 217.

have contributed to form that belief'. Agni, in the Vedic literature, is stated to have three forms and in connection with the ritual we find the three-fold character of the sacrificial fire sometimes referred to.<sup>122</sup> Thus the earliest triad is that of the fires.<sup>123</sup> In the Maitrāyaṇī Upaniṣad, Brahmā, Rudra and Viṣṇu appear as forms (*tanavaḥ*) of the Absolute which itself is incorporeal and again are declared to correspond respectively with the rajas, tamas and sattva aspects of the Absolute.<sup>124</sup> "The union of the three highest gods into a trinity forms no part of the epic belief" and the trinitarian doctrine is recognised only in one late epic passage; others do not really imply it and the aim of the later epic poets is to equalise Kṛṣṇa-Viṣṇu and Śiva as two aspects of God rather than to establish a trinity or reconcile militant factors.<sup>125</sup> The Harivaṁśa, however, seems to have known the doctrine of trinity and by the time of Kālidāsa it had become quite well-known.<sup>126</sup>

The Vāyu shows traces of the doctrine of trinity and these portions may be supposed to fall in line with the Harivaṁśa. Our Purāṇa, however, does not indicate too much of sectarian preference as is often the case in later literature,<sup>127</sup> for in one case we find Brahmā as the Creator whose other forms are there mentioned to be Maheśvara and Nārāyaṇa.

**The Cult of the Sun-god :** Adoration of the Sun-god was a common practice with the Vedic Aryans; and we find in the Brāhmanas that offerings were made to the Sun for the removal of sins.<sup>128</sup> The Chh. Up., however, refers to Devakī-putra Kṛṣṇa as a disciple of Ghora Āṅgīrasa, a priest of the Sun.<sup>129</sup> But we have, however, no definite evidence from the Vedic literature on a special sect of Sun-god. Kauṭilya refers to the temples of other deities but not that of the Sun. In the Gupta age the prevalence of Sun-worship was known and practised and references to temples of the god are found from the inscriptions of the Gupta period.<sup>130</sup> There is evidence to testify to the existence of the Sun-cult in Gujarat before the 5th cent. A.D. and it continued in the subsequent period also.<sup>131</sup> Varāhamihira tells us that the installation and consecration of the images and temples of the Sun should be caused to be made by the Magas and it appears that in his days the Magas were the special priests of the Sun-god.<sup>132</sup> Thus it has been concluded that the cult of the sun-god was introduced into

122. KEITH, *ERE*, 12, 457. 123. HOPKINS, *op. cit.*, 103. 124. KEITH, *op. cit.*

125. HOPKINS, *op. cit.*, 231. 126. KEITH, *op. cit.* 127. *Ibid.*

128. BHANDARKAR, 151-2.

129. Cf. III, 17, 6; and also Kauṣītaki Brāhmaṇa, 30, 6.

130. Cf. R. D. BANERJĠ, *Age of the Imperial Guptas*, 125 ff.; cf. also R. N. SALETORÉ, *Life in Gupta Age*, 509-14.

131. H. D. SANKALIA, *Archaeology of Gujrat*, 212.

132. BHANDARKAR, 153.



India from Persia and the construction of the temples of the god, alluded to above, was also due to foreign influence.<sup>133</sup> The *Bhaviṣṣa Purāṇa* contains a legend which too implies this.<sup>134</sup> There also existed a school for the exclusive worship of the Sun known by the name of Sauras, whose existence in South India in the days of Śaṅkarācārya<sup>135</sup> can be inferred from the information of Ānandagiri who brings him into contact with the followers of that sect.<sup>136</sup> This sect appears to have evolved a theology of its own, but the system does not contain even the remotest allusion to a temple of the Sun and appears to have no connection with the cult of that god<sup>137</sup> as it prevailed in Northern India.

Most of the Vāyu information on the matter merely alludes to the adoration of the god and does not suggest an existence of a cult in honour of that deity. The story of Yājñavalkya appears to have some significance in this connection but the myths told about the origin of the Vājasaneyā school of Yajurveda (whose founder Yājñavalkya was), occurring in various ancient Sanskrit works do not clearly imply that they were particularly devoted to a cult, as such, of the Sun-god, though that god figures prominently in these myths.<sup>138</sup> The Vāyu, however, appears to suggest their connection with the worship of the Sun but it is not clear on this point. The reference to the temple of the Sun-god at Vāyupura, also called Pavanapura, and the four tanks at that place, of which the tank of the Sun (Sūrya-kunḍa) was one, suggest that the prevalence of Sun-worship is here implied. It should be noted that the Purāṇa, in connection with the same Vāyupura, refers elsewhere to Vāḍavas as inhabiting the place whose customs are stated to be "many and varied". This reference to their customs appears somewhat unusual, and are we to infer from this that they were a foreign people akin probably to the Magas mentioned by Varāhamihira? The text of the Purāṇa is here confusing, a part of it having been omitted in some Mss., (Cf. No. 1422 App.), and it is not clear whether the above reference should be taken to be a genuine text of the Purāṇa or a later interpolation. This much, however,

133. *Ibid.* 155. 134. *Ibid.* 153.

135. That is about the 8th century A.D., the period generally assigned to him. Cf. RADHAKRISHNAN, *Indian Philosophy*, II.

136. BHANDARKAR, 152. 137. *Ibid.* 155.

138. See WILSON, *Translation of Viṣṇu Purāṇa*, 279 ff. The story occurs also in the other Purāṇas. cf. *Brahmaṇḍa*. II. 35. 14-26; *Bhāgavata*, 12. 6; *Skanda*, *Nāgarkaṇḍa*, ch. 278 and *Mbh. Śāntiparvan*, 61. 5. No notice of this legend occurs in the Veda itself and according to WILSON it is nothing more than a Puranic invention. Cf. *op. cit.*, 280, fn. 3. The name of Yājñavalkya himself does not appear in any other Vedic text than in the Ś. Br. and Sāṅkhyāyana Āraṇyaka. Cf. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 189. The writer is indebted to Mr. H. M. APPA for supplying the necessary information with regard to this.

can be stated that the worship of the Sun-god in temples is known from the Vāyu and that this worship probably had nothing to do with the Saura system which prevailed in the south in the days of Śaṅkarācārya, i.e. in the eighth century A.D.

It is not clear whether the Vāyu information that the Rākṣasas named Yātudhānas were the followers of the Sun-god should make us infer that they were the worshippers of the god; and we have no information of that kind available for the present from other ancient sources so as to confirm the same.

**Ājivas :** The central figure in the history of the Ājivikas is Maṅkhalī Gosāla whose teaching served to supply a philosophic basis to the Ājivika religion.<sup>139</sup> He was originally a disciple of Mahāvīra and lived with his teacher for six years practising the most austere asceticism. After that period, however, a dispute arose between them out of a very trifling matter and Gosāla separated himself from Mahāvīra and set up a religious system of his own.<sup>140</sup> These Ājivikas, as is evidenced by the Jaina and Buddhist canonical works, were naked ascetics and had Śrāvastī as their headquarters.<sup>141</sup> The sect continued to flourish in later times and had gained considerable following in the days of the Mauryas. There are three cave inscriptions of Aśoka at Barābar in the Gayā Dist.,<sup>142</sup> which record the dedication of cave-dwellings for the use of the Ājivikas who "went about naked and were noted for ascetic practices of the most rigorous kind."<sup>143</sup> The Seventh Pillar Edict of Aśoka mentions them with Brahmins and Jainas.<sup>144</sup> The grandson of Aśoka, Daśaratha, had bestowed on the sect caves in Nāgārjunī hills.<sup>145</sup> KERN and BÜHLER had opined that the sect of the Ājivikas was a subdivision of the Bhāgavatas but the view had been ably refuted by D. R. BHANDARKAR.<sup>146</sup> The further existence of the sect in the 5th and 7th centuries A.D. is testified by references to them by Varāhamihira and in the Harṣa-carita,<sup>147</sup> but the subsequent information about them becomes more scrappy and they are sometimes confused with the Buddhists and Jains. After about the 14th cent. A.D. we hear of them no more.<sup>148</sup>

The history of Buddhism and Jainism is well-known and their history need not be sketched here.

139. For a history of this sect cf. B. M. BARUA, *JDL*, 1920, 1-80; also *Calcutta Review*, 1927, 335 ff.

140. *CHI*, 1, 159. There is a deep mystery which hangs over the relations between these two personalities according to BARUA who differs from the view expressed above cf. *op. cit.*, 17.

141. BARUA, *op. cit.*, 13, fn. 2. 142. *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, 1, 181-2.

143. SMITH, *Early History of India*, 177. 144. *Corp. Ins. Ind.*, 1.

145. *Ibid.* 1, 103-4, 134-6. 146. *IA*, 1912, 286 ff. 147. BARUA, *op. cit.*, 73-6.

148. *Ibid.* 77 ff.

The Vāyu mentions the Ājīvas as a people who had Piśācas as their deities and the mention of Caitryavṛkṣas in the same connection is significant. It is not certain whether by these Ājīvas the Purāṇa means the people who followed the Ājīvika sect or understands by the name all the heterodox sects who were opposed to the orthodox religion. The reference to *nagnas* in a different context suggests that by that term the Purāṇa understands all these hostile non-Brahmanical sects known to it. This portion of the text (i.e. Śrāddha chapters) is assigned by HAZRA to 3rd century A.D. He states further : "The contempt shown to these religious sects could be possible only when their religions were in a decadent state".<sup>149</sup> It should be noted that the Vāyu speaks very highly of ascetics in general and uses the technical words peculiar to the religious doctrines of Buddhism. It is not clear, however, whether the use of these words suggests that the faith of the Buddhists was not quite unknown<sup>150</sup> or whether all these references should be taken to be complimentary to the religion of the Buddhists which would appear rather un-Purāṇic.

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149. Cf. p. 16.

150. Cf. DIKSHITAR, *Some Aspects of the Vāyu Purāṇa*, 24.

## CHAPTER V

### YUGAS AND THE SYSTEM OF CHRONOLOGY

The Kalpa: So far as our knowledge goes we do not find Kalpa being mentioned in the Vedic literature. The belief in the periodical creation and destruction of the world is no doubt found in the AV. (X. 8, 39, 40). The early Buddhist canonical works often mention Kappa in the sense of aeons or cycles of time. They mention three principal aeons, viz., Mahākalpa, Asaṅkheyakalpa and Antarakalpa.<sup>1</sup> Here Kappa is also related to the cosmic life. An early Jaina canonical work, namely the Uttarādhyayana, refers to Kalpa but there the conception of Kalpa signifies only centuries of years and not a fabulously lengthy range of time.<sup>2</sup> The Gītā is well aware of a Kalpa which meant a length of time commencing from the period of creation to that of destruction. "At the expiration of a Kalpa, O son of Kuntī, all entities enter my nature and at the beginning of a Kalpa I again bring them forth." This is what Kṛṣṇa says to Arjuna.<sup>3</sup> The Mbh. connects 'Yuga' with Kalpa and at one place it mentions that 12,000 Yugas make a Kalpa. It also refers to "past Kalpa".<sup>4</sup> But the great epic does not much elaborate on the point. "Even the pseudo-epic does not have such calculations as are found in the Harivaṁśa and the Purāṇas...The earlier calculation is that of 12,000 years making a day of Brahman...An insert at 52, 51, 41 says that 3,600,000 years pass while Viṣṇu sleeps...Unless specially restricted, the years are to be calculated as human years, and probably till the period of later epic...as well as by the pseudo-epic the only period known was the Yuga-complex of twelve thousand years. Then a thousand such were made into a day of Brahman, and with the introduction of Manvantaras in the later epic speculation, this was replaced by astronomical calculations."<sup>5</sup>...The Manu-smṛti, however, says that 12,000 four-yuga periods make a Yuga of gods and one thousand of such Yugas of gods make a day or night of Brahmā. But in this connection it does not refer to the Manvantaras at all, though it refers later on to "innumerable Manvantaras."<sup>6</sup> It appears that the Manu-smṛti is not aware of a *standardized* system of "chronology" connecting the three concepts of Kalpas, Manvantaras and Yugas. WILSON shows that two systems of calculations regarding the duration of Kalpa are observable in the Purāṇas, the original and the simple one indicating that a Kalpa was equal to 1000 great ages and the later calculation had incorporated into it the conception of Manvantaras also.<sup>7</sup>

1. DAVIDS and WILLIAMS, *Pali-English Dictionary*, see KAPPA.

2. SBE, 45. 16.

3. *Ibid.* 8. 82.

4. SÖRENSEN, 378.

5. HOPKINS, *Epic Mythology*. 196-7.

6. 1. 71-81.

7. *Viṣṇu Purāṇa, Translation*, 24 fn. 6.

The Vāyu information on the Kalpas is definitely very elaborate, more elaborate than that obtaining in the early Buddhist and Jaina works as also in the Mbh. and the Manu-smṛti referred to above. But even here certain stages are observable. For at one place we find the duration of a Kalpa as one thousand four yuga-periods; and in the same context the number of Kalpas is ten. But at another place there is much of fanciful scheming for there we find the number of Kalpas as 33 and the names of some of these Kalpas are derived from terms in music. Again, here the duration of Kalpa is stretched to a fabulously lengthy period of time. Besides, the names of Kalpas in this narration do not include the Vārāha Kalpa which is narrated in the former case. Thus the Vāyu material shows two distinct stages in its information. The first stage is indicated in the purely cosmological setting of the Purāṇa while the second is found in connection with Śiva. It might be stated here that the first stage falls chronologically in a line with the later portion of the great epic, the latter belonging to a much later period.

The Manvantaras: The patronymics Vaivasvata, Sāvarni and Sāmaravaṇa of Manu occur in the Vedic literature<sup>8</sup> but we do not find Manvantaras mentioned in the Vedas. The Buddhist canonical works, though they refer to Kalpas in their ideas of aeons or cycles of time, do not mention the Manvantaras. The same is the case with the early works of the Jaina faith. Though Kautilya mentions Yuga in his 'divisions of time' he is silent on the Manvantara and Kalpa. The Gītā mentions four ancient Manus, but another construction is also put on the passage containing the reference.<sup>9</sup> The Mbh. gives some information on the Manvantaras though its information is not certain on the number of Manvantaras which is occasionally mentioned as four, seven or fourteen.<sup>10</sup> The epic alludes to names of Manvantaras such as the Vaivasvata, Cākṣusa and the Svārociṣa. It should be noted that the Cākṣuṣa Manvantara is mentioned as being the sixth one.<sup>11</sup> The Manu-smṛti refers to Manvantaras being innumerable<sup>12</sup> and does not mention their number and here the commentator Kullūka puts it in his gloss that fourteen is the number known in the Purāṇas and the expression "innumerable" should be taken to signify the endless process of creation and destruction. The Smṛti, however, mentions seven to be the number of the Manvantaras<sup>13</sup> and whatever be the interpretation of Kullūka, the number fourteen of the Manvantaras had not become a matter of common knowledge at the time of the compilation of this Smṛti. Kullūka's gloss, however, suggests that in

8. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 128.

10. HOPKINS, op. cit., 201, 202, 222.

12. Cf. *manvatarādīṣi asambhidyai*, 1. 80.

9. *SBE*, 8. 86.

11. *Ibid.*, 36, 174, 202, 81, 85, 88, 201.

13. 1. 62-3.

his days the Purāṇas were regarded as authoritative works on the question of Manvantaras.

It should be noted that the description of Manvantaras is one of the five characteristics of a Purāṇa and it is on this ground that a particular Purāṇa is often considered by scholars to be 'ancient'. Whether the Purāṇic tradition in its floating stage conformed to these characteristics is a problem still to be investigated. Judged from the contents of the Mbh., our Purāṇa definitely shows an advanced stage of information on the question of the Manvantaras. The Manvantaras are introduced in the scheme of chronology only in the later portion of the epic. Thus the Purāṇa scheme of chronology, namely that of the Yugas, Manvantaras and Kalpas must be supposed to be a post-epic development though its exact antiquity cannot be fixed at this stage of our researches.

The Units of Measurement of Time : In the Ś. Br. we have the following divisions of time : 15 *idānti* = *etarhi* ; 15 *etarhi* = *kṣipra* ; 15 *kṣipras* = *muhūrta* ; 15 *muhūrtas* = day or night ; 15 days = half month... Here the year is the highest unit of the measurement of time. The Yuga, Manvantara and Kalpa are not mentioned in this connection at all.<sup>14</sup> The Arthaśāstra of Kauṭilya mentions the following divisions of time, in order : *truṣi*, *lava*, *nimeṣa*, *kāṣṭhā*, *kalā*, *nālikā*, *muhūrta*, forenoon, afternoon, day, night, *pakṣa*, month, *ṛtu*, *ayana*, year (*samvatsara*) and *yuga*.<sup>15</sup> Kauṭilya's 'Yuga' is equal to five years.<sup>16</sup> He, however, does not mention Manvantara or Kalpa. An early Jaina canonical work, namely, the Kalpasūtra, mentions *stoka*, *kṣaṇa*, *lava*, *muhūrta*, *nādikā*, *samaya*, etc., as divisions of time.<sup>17</sup> The Manu-smṛti, however, gives the following units of the measurement of time :—18 *nimeṣas* = *kāṣṭhā* ; 30 *kāṣṭhās* = *kalā* ; 30 *kalās* = *muhūrta* ; 30 *muhūrtas* = day and night. The context also makes references to Kalpas and Manvantaras and to 'days' of the manes and gods.<sup>18</sup>

It will be obvious that the Vāyu material of calculations regarding the divisions of time closely resembles that of the Manu-smṛti, the only difference being that in the Vāyu 15 *nimeṣas* make a *kāṣṭhā* while in Manu 18 *nimeṣas* are said to be equal to a *kāṣṭhā*.

The Yugas : The term 'Yuga' occurs in the Ṛv. in the sense of generation. To the four ages there is no reference in the Vedic literature though the four names are mentioned as designations of the throws at dice. The four ages Puṣya, Dvāpara, Khārvā and Kṛta are mentioned in the Śaṅkara Brāhmaṇa and Dvāpara in the Gopatha Brāhmaṇa. The name Kali occurs in the Vedic literature but it is not clear whether there it signifies the name of a Yuga.<sup>19</sup> Thus there is no definite evidence for the existence of the Yuga-system of chronology in the

14. SBE, 44. 168 ff.

15. Trans., 133 ff.

16. Ibid. 135.

17. SBE, 22. 262.

18. SBE, 25. 20-4.

19. Ved. Ind., 2. 192-3.

Vedic literature. We do not know if the Jātakas were aware of such a system. Kauṭilya, however, knew a Yuga of five years which he connects with a regular system of computation of time. The early Jaina canonical work, named Bhagavatīśūtra, the composition of which is assigned to a period of about 300 B.C.,<sup>20</sup> mentions the four Yugas and further evolves them into its own elaborate system of chronology. It should be noted that this work refers to two kinds of Yugas, viz., the great Yugas (*mahāyuga*) and the small Yugas (*ksudra-yuga*).<sup>21</sup> The expression 'Yuga' occurs also in the Hathigumphā inscription of Khāravela but scholars have often taken it to signify 'a pair'.<sup>22</sup> The Manu-smṛti mentions Yuga in a familiar tone and its Yuga is different from that of Kauṭilya. It mentions all the four Yugas and shows awareness of the Manvantaras and Kalpas connected with its Yuga.<sup>23</sup> The Mbh. is familiar with the four Yugas though it is not so advanced on the whole scheme of chronology formed of Yugas, Manvantaras and Kalpas. In the epic, Kṛṣṇa is said to represent the four Yugas.<sup>24</sup> The durations of the four Yugas are the same as they appear in the Purāṇas.<sup>25</sup> As an entity, Time is subdivided into four ages—the Yugas and according to HOPKINS—"Of these only one is mythologically important. Kṛta, the perfect age, is no more personified than are the other time-divisions, nor is the succeeding Tretā age of more mythological worth while Dvāpara appears on the stage only with Kali, the last of the ages." Kali is here described to be the "bad present age."<sup>26</sup> Jāmadagnya Rāma is stated to have lived in the Tretā or in the period between Tretā and Dvāpara ages.<sup>27</sup> Viśvāmitra, the rival of Vasiṣṭha, too, is said to have lived in the same period.<sup>28</sup> There are two epic Kalis, however, one the musical demi-god, son of Muni, and the other the time-spirit of evil. The latter figures considerably in the great epic. It signifies the "wheel of time", the "fatal time", and sometimes is the same as "plain destruction" and even appears incorporated in all destructive kings. It appears as a human personage in the history of Nala. "As the fiend of the dice Kali is then playing only the part of his general character. In the great gambling scene of the epic he plays no part at all".<sup>29</sup> In the Gupta inscriptions we find that the Purāṇic view of the Yugas seems to have been known, for they mention the Kṛta as the perfect age, though the Kali is not expressly mentioned.<sup>30</sup>

20. CHARPENTIER, Introduction to his edition of *Uttarādhyayana*.

21. *Āgamedaya Samiti Edition*, 744, 958, 964. I am indebted to Mr. M. N. DESHPANDE for this information.

22. BARUA, *Old Brāhmī Inscriptions*, 1, 20, 41, 44. I am indebted to Dr. MEHENDALE for kindly supplying me this information.

23. I 61 ff. 24. HOPKINS, op. cit., 217. 25. *Ibid.* 75-6. 26. *Ibid.* 76.

27. *Ibid.* 211. 28. *Ibid.* 183. 29. *Ibid.* 76-7. 30. *BDCRI*, 2. 163.

PARGITER says that the Yuga reckoning, as is found in the *Purāṇas*, appears to have an historical basis though later speculations elaborate it into an amazing yet precise scheme of cosmogony. The repeated reference to the application of the theory of four ages only to *Bhāratavarṣa* (and not to the whole world) suggests that originally the 'Yuga' had nothing to do with cosmogony.<sup>31</sup> It should be noted in this connection that 'Yuga' in the *RV.* means "generation" and it is probable that some crude era was known in the Vedic times. The fact that Kautilya refers to a secular mode of reckoning a Yuga is significant. His 'Yuga' was of five years, a fact clearly attested in the *Vāyu Purāṇa*. The Vedic "generation" may have been subsequently treated as being equivalent to the period taken by the four Yugas of the secular scale. The *Purāṇa* further seems to emphasize that Yuga formed the central feature of its chronological system for Time, when personified, refers only to "Yuga" and not to "Manvantara" and "Kalpa" which means that the latter had been incorporated into the scheme only subsequently. But even this incorporation had taken place before the final edition of the *Mbh.*, if not before the compilation of the *Manu-smṛti*, both of which testify to the system of chronology of Yugas, Manvantaras and Kalpas. We are told that the chapters of our *Purāṇa* which deal with these details were composed in the period about the 3rd century A.D.,<sup>32</sup> —a conclusion which corresponds closely to the observations made above. The fact that in this portion of the *Purāṇa* there should be no reference to the Yuga of five years is significant.

**The Names of the Four Yugas :** We have stated above that the four Yugas, as such, were not known in the Vedic period and later the *Jātakas* are silent on them. The earliest literary evidence on them is, however, found in the *Jaina* canonical work noted above it and is striking that Kautilya mentions a Yuga—(which we have called a secular Yuga) but not the four Yugas. It appears that in his time the four-yuga period was not a secular one and the four Yugas had been elaborated into a cosmogonic scheme which it was not his business to refer to. The *Mbh.*, however, knows all the four Yugas with the same characteristics in which they appear in the *Purāṇa* and the *Manu-smṛti* shows the same.

**The Descriptions of the Yugas :** We are not in a position for the present to assume that the description of the *Kṛta*, *Tretā* and *Dvāpara* ages have any historical significance. These descriptions are given above in order that probably they may be found of some use for

31. *AIHT*, 175. G. BOSE has discussed the different eras found in the *Purāṇas* in his "*Purāṇa-Praveśa*" which unfortunately is written in the Bengali language. He has, no doubt, given a summary of his views on the matter in *JRASB*, 1939, 5, 74 ff. but his views are one-sided, so far as his summary goes, and it cannot be used for the present discussion. We have deliberately refrained from discussion which involves knowledge of astronomy.

32. HAZRA, 16.



subsequent investigation. The Kṛta age, as a perfect age, was known to the Mbh. and to the Dharma-śāstra works in general and the concept had its origin long before the age of the final edition of the Mbh. The notion was popular in the age of the Guptas—i.e. in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D.—for this is the only Yuga actually mentioned by name in the inscriptions of this period.<sup>33</sup> The Mbh. has not got such an elaborate description<sup>34</sup> as is found in the Vāyu and we are not sure whether on this ground we should assign that Vāyu portion to a later date. The same holds good as regards the description of the Dvāpara age for the Vāyu material, in this respect, is peculiar to it and is not found in the Mbh.<sup>35</sup>

The case of the description of the Kali age is, however, different. Some scholars have seen a historical significance into it, thinking that the Purāṇas are herein depicting an actual state of facts existing in the times when the chapters containing such description had been incorporated into the Purāṇas.<sup>36</sup> It should, however, be noted that such descriptions are common to many Purāṇas<sup>37</sup> and that they probably suggest a common source of the information. The Mbh. also indulges in similar description and its description of the incarnation of Kalki, on its own authority, is based on the Vāyu Purāṇa.<sup>38</sup> HAZRA has brought much evidence to bear upon these passages. He says that the evidence of the Buddhist literature also confirms what is described in the Purāṇas. "The similarity between the two accounts is very great. In numerous cases what the Purāṇas formulate, the Jātakas seem to illustrate. This striking agreement between the two accounts proves that they are not so imaginary as we may take them to be, but have some historical value."<sup>39</sup> According to him the state of society reflected in these descriptions belongs to the period before 200 A.D. "In spite of the obvious exaggeration, this description refers to the disintegration of the social fabric, on account of the vigour of Buddhism from the time of Aśoka Maurya, the position of the Śūdras as kings and perhaps also as high state officers, and the settlement of the immoral and casteless nomads, viz., the Śakas, Pahlavas and Ābhiras."<sup>40</sup> Though there is some justification in what HAZRA has argued, still, we have to bear in mind that there is much of wishful thinking in this description and so far as the details of this description are concerned, we are not prepared to attach any historical importance to them.

33. *BDCRI*, 2, 163.

34. SØRENSEN, 679.

35. *Ibid.* 283-4.

36. G. BOSE refers to 'Social order in the Kali yuga' but does not develop the idea further. Cf. *JRASE*, 1939, 5, 75-6; cf. also HAZRA, 208 ff. where he has discussed the problem in details.

37. *Ibid.*

38. Cf. SØRENSEN, 377 and HOPKINS, *op. cit.*, 218.

39. P. 212.

40. P. 210.

## CHAPTER VI

### TOWNS, VILLAGES AND DWELLINGS

#### I. TOWNS AND VILLAGES

**The Origin of the Communal Settlements:** "We really know nothing whatever of the dwelling-places of men other than caves during Quarternary times; the first traces of huts built in the open appear with mesolithic industries."<sup>1</sup> Palaeolithic Man was primarily a cave-dweller, a nomad and a hunter. "The palaeolithic age was characterised by a purely hunting culture,...by a semi-nomadic way of life in which the only permanent forms of habitation were caves and rock-shelters. The men of the neolithic culture, on the other hand, followed a settled way of life in huts and villages, practising agriculture and the breeding of domestic animals..."<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that the neolithic age had followed a great change of climate which resulted from the passing of glacial conditions and the emergence of northern Europe from the great ice-sheets that had covered it. This is how the pre-historians tell us about the origin of the fixed habitation of man and the rise of the village organisation.

The description found in the Vāyu with regard to the same topic is really very striking.<sup>3</sup> The emphasis on climate which, according to our text, forced man to resort to fixed dwelling is certainly interesting. It should be noted, again, that the rise of civilization, according to the theory known to the Vāyu, had taken root in the Tretā age. The analogy, however, should not be stretched too far, for the preceding description in the context does not show an orderly and clear way of thinking over the matter. But still we have to admit that the description is striking as considered with the findings of pre-historians.

**Different Terms used for Communal Settlement:** "Upto the present no evidence has been found that the city of Mohenjo-daro was protected either by walling or by fortifications".<sup>4</sup> It is not certain, however, whether stone fortifications were known to the Aryans of the RV.<sup>5</sup> The village probably consisted of a certain number of houses built near each other for purposes of mutual defence, perhaps surrounded by a hedge or other protection against wild beasts or enemies.

1. JACQUES DE MORGAN, *Prehistoric Man*, 154.

2. DAWSON, *The Age of the Gods*, 45; cf. also KEITH-HENDERSON, *Prehistoric Man*, 132 ff.

3. Cf. also DIKSHITAR, *The Matsya Purāna, A Study*, 101 ff. where he quotes the text of the Brahmāṇḍa Purāna which is almost the same as that of the Vāyu.

4. MACKAY, *Mohenjo-daro*, 1, 282. Cf. also fn. 2 and also p. 9 where MARSHALL says that personally he "sees no sufficient reason at present for this supposition."

5. CHI, 1. 99.

Indra in the RV. is often described as destroying hundreds of strongholds of the Dasyus, called "Pur". But this "Pur" according to KEITH was no more than a mere earthwork fortification.<sup>6</sup> P. K. ACHARYA, however, says that the Vedic Indians "were not ignorant of stone forts, walled cities, stone houses and brick edifices."<sup>7</sup> The canonical books of the Buddhists more elaborately refer to the arrangement of villages, towns and forts.<sup>8</sup> Here we find *gāma*, *nigama*, *kula* and *nagaraka* often mentioned.<sup>9</sup> The early Jaina texts also refer to settlements such as *ghoṣa*, *kheṣa*, *kharvaṣa*, *grāma*, *paṭṭi*, *pattana*, *saṃvāha*, *uagara* and *maṭamba*.<sup>10</sup> Kauṭilya refers to four [kinds of] forts, viz., water fortification, mountainous fortification, desert and forest fortifications.<sup>11</sup> The two epics also furnish us copious descriptions about towns and forts, though they do not give us structural details about the same. There are nine Purāṇas which have treated the subject more systematically (the Vāyu is not one of them). The Matsya Purāṇa has eight chapters entirely devoted to the subject of architecture and sculpture<sup>12</sup> and it mentions as many as eighteen teachers of Vāstu Śāstra.<sup>13</sup> The Bṛhatsamhitā of Varāhamihira has five chapters "wherein both architecture and sculpture are treated with a masterly hand".<sup>14</sup> Acharya says that Varāhamihira might have based his information on the Mānasāra which is the standard treatise on the subject handed down to us. But the date of this compilation is a moot point though it might probably be assigned to the period anterior to that of Varāhamihira.<sup>15</sup> This work refers to eight kinds of fortified cities, viz., the Nagara (royal and ordinary), Pura, Nagari, Kheṣa, Kharvaṣa, Kubjaka and Pattana and also eight kinds of forts.<sup>16</sup>

It would thus be obvious that the material of the Vāyu is certainly earlier than that of the Matsya and antedates Varāhamihira. It does not know at all the eight kinds of durgas and nowhere shows any knowledge of a standard treatise on the subject such as the Mānasāra. Its material, however, shows closer resemblance with that of Kauṭilya, though the details of the four kinds of durgas given by the Vāyu do not agree with those mentioned by Kauṭilya. It should be noted that the Vāyu information is not so systematic, elaborate and clear as that of Kauṭilya, a fact which may make us infer that our Purāṇa has handed down to us a material which probably belongs to a

6. *Ibid.*; cf. also *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 538.

7. *History of Indian Architecture*; cf. also DAS, *Rgvedic Culture*; cf. also MEHTA, 317 ff.

8. P. K. ACHARYA, *Architecture of Mānasāra*, 4. Preface, xlviii; *Ibid.* xlix; cf. also RHYS DAVIDS, 96 and CHI, 1. 616.

9. Cf. CHI, 1. 200 ff.; RADHA KUMUDA MOOKERJI, *Hindu Civilization*, 299.

10. *Ibid.* 300-1. 11. *Trans.*, 56 ff.

12. ACHARYA, *op. cit.*, and cf. also DIKSHITAR, *op. cit.*, 105.

13. *Ibid.*

14. ACHARYA, *op. cit.*, 11.

15. *Ibid.* lvi.

16. *Ibid.* 95.

period anterior to that of Kauṭilya, though it cannot claim an antiquity as high as that of the Vedas.

Units of Measurement of Distance: *Anguli*, 'finger-breadth' is mentioned as the 'lowest measure' in the Ś. Br.<sup>17</sup> The term '*Prādeśa*' also frequently occurs in the Brahmanas as a measure of length equivalent to a 'span'.<sup>18</sup> Of '*Vitasti*', however, there is no mention in the Vedic literature. The word '*Aratni*' which primarily means 'elbow' is frequently met with from the RV. onwards as denoting a measure of length ('ell' or 'cubit'), showing the distance from the elbow to the tip of the hand.<sup>19</sup> The exact length is nowhere given in the early texts. The term '*Ratni*' is mentioned in the Śaṅkhya Brāhmaṇa and is a corruption of '*Aratni*'.<sup>20</sup> '*Dhanus*', '*Hasta*' and '*Kiṣku*' are not mentioned in the Vedic texts as units of measurement, though '*Yojana*' occurs very frequently in the RV. and in later works as a measure of distance but there is no reference defining its real length. Later, it is reckoned at four *Krośas* or about nine miles. It is also calculated at 8 *Krośas* or 18 miles and the estimate of 2 miles is also found.<sup>21</sup> The Pāṇcaviṃśa Brāhmaṇa mentions '*Gavyūti*' as a measure of distance.<sup>22</sup> The Taittirīya Saṃhitā mentions another measure of distance, namely, '*Bāhu*' which is often mentioned in the Sūtras.<sup>23</sup> This '*Bāhu*' may be the same as '*Hasta*'. The Ś. Br. mentions '*Pāda*' also as a measure of length.<sup>24</sup> The Jātakas seem to refer to other measures of distance as used in their time in Eastern India. Here we find references to '*sticks*' and '*ropes*' used for the purposes of surveying the land.<sup>25</sup> Kauṭilya, however, is more elaborate about his measurements of distance,<sup>26</sup> and it is unnecessary to repeat the whole thing here. FLEET, however, says that the Arthaśāstra "presents its table of measures of length in a somewhat disjointed form owing to the various parenthetical excursions into special subsidiary measures."<sup>27</sup>

The Vāyu has two tables regarding the measures of distance. It is clear that it shows the tables in a more systematic form than what can be made out from the Vedic literature. As compared with Kauṭilya, however, the first table of Vāyu is more antiquarian in its contents; for the Vāyu had not then advanced to such minute measures of distance as the atoms, *likṣā*, *yava*, etc., which are found in the Arthaśāstra.<sup>28</sup> It should be noted that these minute measures are not, so far as our knowledge goes, mentioned in the Vedic literature. Again the Vāyu does not mention the '*Rajju*' (rope) and '*Daṇḍa*' (stick) which are found as measures in the Jātakas and also in the Arthaśāstra.<sup>29</sup> It should be further noted that '*Gavyūti*', which occurs in the Vedic literature

17. *Ved. Ind.*, 2. 511. 18. *Ibid.* 50. 19. *Ibid.* 1. 34. 20. *Ibid.* 2. 199.

21. *Ibid.* 196. 22. *Ibid.* 1. 223. 23. *Ibid.* 2. 68. 24. *Ibid.* 1. 516.

25. FICK, 148-50; cf. also fn. 1 on p. 149; cf. also МЕНТА, 143-4.

26. *Trans.*, 131-3. 27. *JRAS*, 1912, 331. 28. *Op. cit.*, 131. 29. *Ibid.* 133.

and in the Vāyu is not mentioned by Kauṭilya. The second table, however, shows closer resemblance with the information of Kauṭilya on the same subject. But this table is more elaborate in regard to minute measures of distance than Kauṭilya and probably shows traces of a later age. Here we find 'Daṇḍa' also mentioned and the fact that this table mentions 1000 *Yojanas* as being equal to a *Krośa* of Indra suggests that it shows traces of a later speculation.

**Town-planning:** As regards town-planning the Vāyu does not show an advanced state of facts or knowledge. The Purāṇa information, especially in connection with the Tretā age, does not elucidate much, the probable antiquity of which we have already discussed above. The information occurring in the geographical chapters is more or less fanciful as is clear from the cities or the extent of the cities described therein.

**Village-roads, etc.:** The existence of path-ways and roads in the Rgvedic times appears to have been implied in references to Pūśan as a protector of paths and high-ways, chariots and carts;<sup>30</sup> and since carriages and chariots are frequently mentioned in the Vedic literature, it may be presumed that a system of communications might have been evolved in those days. In the Jātakas we already find trade and commerce in a flourishing state and these works clearly testify to an existence of a net-work of trade-routes known in those days.<sup>31</sup> Kauṭilya, however, gives better information on this subject. He describes names of the various kinds of roads and highways.<sup>32</sup> He mentions six principal roads in a city and he further enumerates several small roads and foot-paths and frames also rules and regulations regarding traffic.<sup>33</sup> According to him the royal road was to be 4 *Daṇḍas* wide.<sup>34</sup>

The Vāyu information, in this respect, does not agree with that of Kauṭilya nor is it so systematic as that of Kauṭilya and thus it is to be assigned to the stage of development as is indicated by the Purāṇa information on *durga*, *pura*, etc. which is described in the same context.

## II. HOUSES AND DWELLINGS

"The sort of houses inhabited by the Aryans would be of great interest could it be reconstructed. Equations exist for door, door-frame or porch and pillar as well as the whole structure. They certainly suggest something more substantial than a nomad's tent—even perhaps a porched house.....From the series of *šāla*, *cella*, *holl*, SCHRADER infers some sort of pit-dwelling such as is common all over pre-historic Europe."<sup>35</sup> Such is the information on the dwelling of the

30. MACDONELL, *Vedic Mythology*.

31. *CHI*, 1, 213; FICK, 272 ff.

32. N. N. LAW, *Studies in Ancient Hindu Polity*, 66 ff.; cf. also DIKSHITAR, *Hindu Administrative Institutions*, 375.

33. *Trans.*, 217.

34. *LAW*, op. cit., 71.

35. CHILDER, *The Aryans*, 86.

primitive Aryan. That the word '*śālā*' should have an Indo-European antiquity is interesting from the view-point of the information available from the *Vāyu*. "Of the construction of the Vedic house we learn little, but the bamboo seems to have been largely used for the beams which borrowed their name from it."<sup>36</sup> There is, however, a short hymn in the *RV.* wherein the deity of the house, *Vāstoṣpati*, is invoked to bless man and beast, to afford protection and to grant a favourable entry.<sup>37</sup> The *Gṛhya-sūtras* lay down rules regarding building of houses and the ceremonies to be observed in that connection<sup>38</sup> and we need not probe into the later history of this subject as the *Vāyu* does not furnish such details as would justify such an attempt.

The origin of a fixed dwelling, as is explained by the *Vāyu*, is certainly very interesting as compared with the information noted above about the primitive Aryan house. It shows that a house was more or less a wooden structure and it does not refer to any other material in this connection. It is further interesting that one Ms. omits the etymological explanation of the word '*prāsāda*' which occurs immediately after '*śālā*', thus probably suggesting that the original tradition of the history of the dwellings of men did not know anything about a '*prāsāda*', meaning a palatial building.

The references to cave-dwellings in our *Purāṇa* occur in a purely mythological setting and we need not attach any historical importance to them. It is possible, however, that ascetics might have inhabited the caves, excavated by nature, for the references do not suggest any caves excavated by man.

The *Vāyu* has a very scanty information regarding the construction of buildings. It does not presuppose an existence of any treatise, well-known or otherwise, on the science of architecture. References to *Tvaṣṭṛ* and *Viśvakarman*<sup>39</sup> occur in the Vedic literature and almost the same functions are assigned to them in the *Vāyu*. But the latter mentions *Maya* who is not referred to in the *Vedas*. The *Mbh.*, however, gives us more information on this *Maya* but there he is recorded to be a brother of *Namuci*. The epic calls him *Viśvakarman* and his cleverness in building cities and palaces is often alluded to.<sup>40</sup> He is there the son of *Diti*<sup>41</sup> and was spared by *Agni* in the famous incident of the burning of the *Khāṇḍava* forest.<sup>42</sup> It will at once be obvious that the *Vāyu* information about him is comparatively earlier than that of the great epic.

36. *CHI*, 1. 99; cf. also *DAS, Rgvedic Culture*, 187 ff.

37. *KEITH, Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, *HOS*, 31. 188.

38. *CHI*, 1. 39. *KEITH*, op. cit., 204-10. 40. *HOPKINS, Epic Mythology*, 49.

41. *Ibid.* 9. 42. *Ibid.* 49.

## CHAPTER VII

### DRESS, ORNAMENTS, FOOD AND DRINK

#### I. DRESS AND ORNAMENTS

##### *Dress*

**Nudity:** The information of the Vāyu, in this respect, is purely mythological and hence useless for the purposes of the present enquiry. Again we do not know of any stage in the history of the Indian people when they wandered naked.

The Vāyu information regarding the origin of clothing forms a necessary part of the description which tells us about the origin of fixed dwelling and is consequently very valuable. The latest contribution to the history of dress, as indicated by the Purāṇa, occurs in its śrāddha chapters. On the ground of other evidence, these chapters, according to HAZRA, were added to the Vāyu probably in the middle of the third century A.D.<sup>1</sup> There is no other criterion to judge the antiquity of this material.

**Materials for Dress:** The use of cotton and wool for the purposes of clothing is indicated by the finds of the Indus-Valley.<sup>2</sup>

The RV. shows that garments made of wool, skin and grass or leaves of trees (mostly for ceremonial purposes) were used in those days.<sup>3</sup>

About the use of cotton fabrics we have no information but silken garments are mentioned in the later Vedic literature.<sup>4</sup> Cotton clothes were, however, in common use in the period indicated by the Jātakas, at least in Eastern India.<sup>5</sup> It is unnecessary to deal with the period subsequent to that of the Jātakas wherein all the materials for clothing mentioned in the Vāyu were known and such a discussion is not useful for chronological purposes.

The Vāyu information on garments made of leaves and bark of trees occurs mostly in mythological setting and hence is of little historical value; and the same can be said with regard to skin-garments.

The reference to munis, however, suggests that the ascetics were accustomed to this material for their clothes. The Vāyu references to cotton, silk, wool and linen occur mostly in the śrāddha chapters, the antiquity of which has already been referred to above. The information on the clothing of the people at the end of the Kali age need not be taken seriously though the general description which embodies this information among other details, has been, on certain grounds, assigned to a period immediately preceding 200 A.D.

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1. P. 16.      2. *Moheno-daro*, 1. 33.      3. *CHI*, 1. 101; Das, *op. cit.*, 210-5.  
4. *CHI*, 1. 137.      5. *CHI*, 215; cf. also MERTZ, 194, 239.

**Shape of Garments:** Our evidence on the dress of the Indus-valley people is very scanty.<sup>6</sup> The Vedic Aryans used two garments to cover their nakedness – the upper and the lower garments. The Vedic evidence is not clear on the point whether males and females used different kinds of dress.<sup>7</sup> The style of clothing seems to have remained unchanged till the time of the later Brāhmaṇas.<sup>8</sup> "Suit of clothes was the ordinary dress" of the people depicted in the Jātakas.

"One Jātaka informs us that people wore under-garments in the pockets of which they put money or such valuable things. The richer class could afford to indulge in little luxuries in the matter of dress."<sup>9</sup> In the Mbh. we find women using only one garment covering both the upper and the lower parts of their bodies.<sup>10</sup> The warriors, however, are shown there using two garments.<sup>11</sup>

The Vāyu information on the shape of garments occurs only in the mythological and sacerdotal settings. The reference to upper and lower garments occurs in the śrāddha chapters. The only evidence of the dress of a female occurs in connection with the wife of god Śiva which may be supposed to represent the dress of women known at the time when the reference was incorporated into the text, but this information is chronologically of little value.

**Hair-Dressing:** "The Indus-Valley people had their hair taken back from the forehead and either cut short behind or coiled in a knot or chignon at the back of the head, with a fillet to support it." In the case of females it appears that the practice was to let the hair fall loosely behind.<sup>12</sup> In the time of the RV. women dressed their hair in braids,<sup>13</sup> so did men. The Vasisthas had long hair which was braided and coiled on the right. The term *kapardin* occurs in the RV. in connection with Rudra and Pūṣan. The Grhya-sūtras, however, contain two important Saṃskāras (the *cūdākarma* and *godāna*) which give numerous prescriptions regarding the arrangement of the hair.<sup>14</sup>

The Vāyu information on hair-dressing is mostly in connection with Śiva, the Bhūtas and the Piśācas. It is difficult to say whether the fashions of Śiva's hair-dressing had any historical reality. We find, however, the appearance of the Śikhī or Śikhandī which must presuppose the art of shaving. The expressions *muṇḍī*, *ardhamuṇḍa* also point to this.

**Beards:** The men of the Indus-valley wore short beards and whiskers with the upper lip sometimes shaven.<sup>15</sup> In the RV. Indra is

6. *Mohenjo-daro*, 1. 33.

7. DAS, *op. cit.*, 210-5; ALTEKAR, 334-5; *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 292; *CHI*, 1. 101.

8. *CHI*, 1. 137.

9. MEHTA, 239. Cf. also DAVIDS, *Dialogues of Buddha*, 2. 180 fn.

10. ALTEKAR, 335; HOPKINS, *JAS*, 13. 349 fn.

11. *Ibid.*, 105-6.

12. *Mohenjo-daro*, 1. 33-4.

13. DAS, 217.

14. APTR, *op. cit.*, 73.

15. *Mohenjo-daro*, 1. 33; cf. also *JIOSA* 8. 66.



described as wearing beard and the information of the same *Veda* on the *Tytaus* and *Vasiṣṭhas* shows that men in those days sometimes wore beards and sometimes shaved them.<sup>16</sup> But it is difficult to state definitely whether it was a common practice to wear beards in the Vedic times for we also find shaving of beards often referred to.<sup>17</sup>

The practice, however, shows decline in later times for the sacraments of the *Gṛhya-sūtra* contain elaborate prescriptions regarding shaving which included shaving of the beard.<sup>18</sup> In the early Buddhist sculptures we find beards less common.<sup>19</sup>

It is interesting that *Vāyu* has its information connected with its genealogical lists. Though this information shows that shaving was known, still the details suggest that beards were generally worn by kings and the members of the nobility. The information may probably be considered to be true to its political setting.

**Ornaments :** The *Vāyu* information on the origin of ornaments is to be explained in the same manner as in the case of similar information on dress.

**Armlets and Bracelets :** *Keyūra* and *Āṅgada* : Bracelets were used by the Aryans of the *Ṛgvedic* period,<sup>20</sup> and no doubt continued to be used in later times. The *Yakṣa* statue from Patna of about the third century B.C. shows that both bracelets and armlets were used in that period.<sup>21</sup> Both *āṅgadas* and *keyūras* are frequently mentioned in the *Mbh.* and *HOPKINS* says that armlets are the most frequently mentioned ornaments in the great epic.<sup>22</sup> Their use is also indicated in the South India of the second century A.D.<sup>23</sup> The *Vāyu* associates their use with *Śiva*, the *Rākṣasas* and the people of the *Kuru* country. Its evidence does not admit of chronological verification.

**Crowns and Turbans :** *Kirīṭa*, *Mukuta* and *Uṣṇīṣa* : We have no evidence from the *RV.* whether the people used any head-dress such as a crown or a turban. The *AV.* mentions *kumbha* worn on the head but we have no information regarding its form or size.<sup>24</sup> The *Ś. Br.* describes *Indrāṇī* as wearing the *uṣṇīṣa* as her head-dress.<sup>25</sup> The *Jātakas* show that, in Eastern India of their times, use of turbans was very common.<sup>26</sup> Gods and men from the *Bhārhut* sculptures wear mostly the turbans and not the jewelled crowns,<sup>27</sup> and the same can be

16. Das, op. cit., 219. 17. *Ibid.* 18. V. M. APTE, op. cit., 74-5.

19. BARUA, *Bharhut Sculptures*, 3. Plates.

20. *CHI.* 1. 101 ; *MAC.*, *HSL.* 164 ; *ALTEKAR*, 360.

21. Cf. STELLA KRAMRISCH, *Indian Sculpture*, Plate I, No. 2.

22. *JAOS.* 13. 317 fn. 23. *BDCRI.* 2. 85. 24. VI. 138. 3.

25. *XIV.* 2. 1. 8. 26. MEHTA, 239.

27. BACCHOFER, *Early Indian Sculpture*, Plates 10 ff. ; cf. also BARUA, *Bharhut*, 3. 52-4 and plates.

said from the evidence of the Sanchi sculptures.<sup>28</sup> The Nāgārjunikonda sculptures of about the second century A.D. show that in the South India of that period turbans formed the most common head-dress for men but here we find the wearing of crowns coming into practice especially by princes.<sup>29</sup> Both *Mukuta* (crown) and *uṣṇīṣa* (turban) are mentioned in the Mbh. and HOPKINS says that *mukuta* seems to be worn only by kings and princes while the *uṣṇīṣa* was worn by all. He attributes the former to a later usage when "the king, free from immediate personal danger, drove upon the scene (of war) to see, not to fight, permitting the use of the crown and not the older helmet."<sup>30</sup> That the wearing of crown was a "later usage" appears probable from the evidence of the sculptures noted above.

The Vāyu mentions *uṣṇīṣa* many more times than the *mukuta*. It is striking that it associates the use of *mukuta* not with the gods but with the Rākṣasas and with people of the Kuru country, a fact full of chronological significance, for we find in later sculptures the wearing of crowns associated with gods and princes. The epic kings wear the crown but no king is so described by the Vāyu; it may be that the Purāṇa had no occasion for such a description. Nevertheless the evidence of the Purāṇa, in this respect, is striking and it shows the comparative antiquity of this information.

Necklaces: The use of necklaces as ornaments is as old as the RV. for we find in it such an expression as *maṇigrīva* (i. e. having a jewel on the neck).<sup>31</sup> They continued to be worn in later times. The early Buddhist sculptures testify to their common use both by males and females.<sup>32</sup> The Mbh. refers to jewelled necklaces.<sup>33</sup>

The Vāyu mentions 'dāman', 'hāra', and 'sūtra', but we have no information to judge whether each of them had their distinctive characteristics. Again this material of the Purāṇa does not suggest anything definitely chronological about them.

Use of Garlands: (cf. also *Akṣamālā*): The fashion of wearing garlands of flowers appears to have been very popular with the R̥gvedic Aryans. They wore also a golden lace. The very fact that the maker of *niṣka* and the maker of garland are mentioned in that Veda as having been troubled with evil dreams suggests the frequency of its use.<sup>34</sup>

Of the Vāyu evidence on the matter we may observe the same remarks as in the case of necklaces.

Waist-bands or Belts: *Mekhālā*, *Kāñcānapaṭṭa* and *Śroṇibandha*: The Ś. Br. shows that the waist-band was worn round the lower garment

28. BACCHOFER, op. cit. 29. BDCRI 2. 66 ff. 30. JAOS. 13. 317 fn.

31. DAS, op. cit., 217; cf. also MAC., HSL. 164 and CHI. 1. 101.

32. Cf. BACCHOFER, op. cit., plates; BARUA, op. cit. and BDCRI, 2. 81 ff.

33. JAOS. 13. 317 fn. 34. DAS, op. cit., 216.

and it appears that it was more a part of dress than an ornamental device.<sup>35</sup> The earliest sculptures, however, show it more as an ornamental device. The two Yakṣa statues from Patna of about the third century B. C. suggest that waist-bands were probably commonly worn.<sup>36</sup> The frequent use and the elaborate nature of this ornament are clearly seen from the Bhārhut sculptures.<sup>37</sup> Its use in South India of about the second century A. D. is clearly testified by the evidence of Nāgārjunikoṇḍā sculptures.<sup>38</sup>

The Vāyu mentions the use of waist-bands in mythological and sacerdotal settings only. The reference to *Kāñcanapaṭṭa* as a good gift in śrāddha may be assigned to the period to which the śrāddha chapters are assigned by HAZRA. The association of the use of *śroṇibandha* with the kings of the Aiḍa-varṇa does not occur in the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa and we do not know whether it can be considered to have any historical basis.

Ear-rings: *Kuṇḍala*: Ear-rings (*karṇa-sobhana*) are referred to in the RV.<sup>39</sup> and may have been used in later times. The Vāyu information on this matter does not admit of chronological discussion.

Anklets: *Valaya*: The RV. mentions anklets<sup>40</sup> and the Vāyu evidence has the same chronological implications as in the case of ear-rings.

*Cosmetics*: 'Kohl' vessels have been discovered in the Indus-Valley excavations suggesting the use of some sort of eye-paint.<sup>41</sup> A similar practice appears to have prevailed in the Vedic times. *Añjana* (eye-solve) is frequently mentioned in the AV.<sup>42</sup> The same work also makes frequent allusions to scents and perfumes the importance of which can be easily realized from the fact that they were presented to the bride in the beginning of the nuptial rights. It again refers to *guggula* and use of flowers for the purposes of decoration.<sup>43</sup> The Ś. Br. shows use of ointments for eyes and even gives a story of the origin of añjana.<sup>44</sup> In the Jātaka the art of cosmetics appears in a more developed form.<sup>45</sup> We find the ancient Pali texts giving a stock expression *mālāgandha-vilepana-dhāraṇamaṇḍana-vibhūṣaṇa-phāṭṭha* which apparently suggests that all these kinds of toilets had become a matter of common use.

Most of these are mentioned in the Vāyu but only in the mythological and sacerdotal settings. The genealogical account mentions none of them. The information contained in the śrāddha portion of the Purāṇa may be assigned to the period of about 200 A.D.

35. ALTEKAR, 334.

36. BACCHOFER, op. cit., Plate 10.

37. *Ibid.* Plates 17 ff.

38. BDCRI. 2, 87 ff.

39. DAS, op. cit., 216; ALTEKAR, 358; MAC. ESL. 164.

40. MAC. ESL. 164.

41. JISOA. 8, 62.

42. *Ibid.* 68-9.

43. *Ibid.* 70-72.

44. *Ibid.* 68-9.

45. *Ibid.* 73 ff. and cf. also MEHTA.

## II. FOOD AND DRINK

**Food-grains :** *Yava* and *dhānya* are the only terms for food-grains mentioned in the *R̥gveda*. The diet of a people of semi-pastoral habits must essentially be composed of milk and flesh of their cattle and thus we find few references to food-grains in the *RV*.<sup>46</sup> But a considerable change had taken place in the economic life of the people in the times of the *Brāhmaṇas*.<sup>47</sup> A good many food-crops—*Vrihi*, *Priyaṅgu*, *Tila*, *Godhūma*, *Māṣa*—are mentioned in these works. The censure of meat-eating, for the first time, in the *Brahmaṇas* is also suggestive of a possible change in the dietary of the people. The presence of a large number of cultivated food-grains, ready for use as food-stuffs, seems to have become an important psychological factor in the development of these ideas of animal *ahiṃsā*. These various food-grains had been introduced in the place of meat as important articles of food for the people. A further development in this state of things in the *Jātakas* is already noted above. In the *Jātakas* we find the following field-crops : *Sāli*, *Vihi*, *Taṇḍula*, *Yava*, *Kaṅgu*, *Kalāye*, *Mugga*, *Māsa*, *Tila*, *Eraṇḍa*, *Marīca*, *Jiraka*, *Siddhaṭṭhakka*, *Lona*, *Ambila*, and *Addasugivera*.<sup>48</sup> The *Arthaśāstra* is even more elaborate.<sup>49</sup>

The *Vāyu* references to food-grains are merely illustrative and not exhaustive. Only those primarily associated with ceremonies such as *śrāddha* and *yajña* are mentioned. They show the use of *masura*, varieties of rice, *yava* and *tila* only. It is not clear whether the *dhānya* of *Vāyu* refers to barley or in general to any food-grain. The *Vāyu* material is clearly indicative of conditions of post-*R̥gveda* times though we cannot set up the lowest limit thereof.

**Food-preparations :** In the *R̥gveda* we find that the principal meals were prepared from barley and rice. The food preparations mentioned in the *RV*. are : *odana*, *kṣīraudana*, *mugdaudana*, *māṃsaudana*, *apūpa*, *pakti* and *karambha*.<sup>50</sup> Conditions must have fairly advanced in the times of the *Brāhmaṇas*, but we have no evidence to record here. Extraction of oil from *tila* was known in *Brāhmaṇa* times.<sup>51</sup> The field-crops of the *Jātakas* are noted above and they must have been used for the purposes of food-preparations. The *Jātakas* further show sugarcane as a common crop and its juice was used in plenty and sugar was obtained from sugarcane.<sup>52</sup> Salt-makers are also mentioned. We even find food-stuffs, groceries and oil sold in bazaars.<sup>53</sup> *Kauṭilya* throws more light on this problem but his information is of an altogether different character which does not admit of comparison here.<sup>54</sup> The same conclusion as in the case of food-grains can be recorded here.

46. Cf. *CHI*, 1. 99-101.47. *Ibid.* 136.48. *МЕНТА*, 19.

49. Cf. pp. 142 ff. and 114 ff.

50. *DAS*, 201-2.51. *АРТЕ*, op. cit., 117.52. *МЕНТА*, 187.53. *CHI*, 1. 214-5.

54. Cf. trans. 112 ff.

**Milk and its Products :** The chief articles of food in the R̥gvedic times were milk and its products.<sup>55</sup> The word *dadhi* is mentioned in the RV. and the frequent occurrence of *ghṛta* was due to its use in sacrifices.<sup>56</sup> This predominance of milk and its preparations in the food of the people was due to the fact that the R̥gvedic Aryans were, to a large extent, a pastoral people.<sup>57</sup> Things must have changed considerably when they settled to agricultural pursuits which means predominance of the food-grains and vegetables in the dietary of the people ; thus milk and its products would no longer remain as the chief articles of food. In later saṁhitās we find this clearly reflected ; for quite a large variety of grains came to be known in this period.<sup>58</sup> The Jātakas show a further advance in this state of things where we find even manufacturing industries connected with food-grains.<sup>59</sup>

The references to milk and its products in the Vāyu occur mostly in connection with the śrāddha ceremonies. It had also become a part of the mythological nomenclature, viz., *Kṣīroda*, the name of a sea ; and *Dadhivāhini*, that of a river.

The Vāyu statement that Urvaśi's food consisted only of *ghṛta* when she lived with Purūravas is pregnant with chronological suggestions. It appears as if we are here reminded of Purūravas, a king of a pastoral people, a state of facts well suited to the R̥gvedic or even pre-R̥gvedic times. This only shows how facts of material culture strongly coincide with the facts of a corresponding greater antiquity indicated in political history. The story of the Prthividhana fits well in the folklore of a pastoral people, for it involves an idea showing milk as the main sustainer of the people.

**Soma and Surā :** These were the principal drinks of the R̥gvedic Aryans.<sup>60</sup> Soma was probably a sacrificial drink and it must have originally been a popular drink also,<sup>61</sup> but with the R̥gvedic people Surā was a more popular drink. Another drink named Pānta is also recorded in the RV.<sup>62</sup> A Distiller of Wine is mentioned in the Vāj. Saṁ.<sup>63</sup> and we find Ch. Up. 6.10 mentioning drinking liquor as a *madāyātaka*. Liquor was manufactured and consumed on a large scale in the times of the Jātakas in eastern India and there were a good many liquor-shops open day and night.<sup>64</sup> Kauṭilya has an independent officer as a Superintendent of Liquor and he mentions the manufacture of different kinds of liquor.<sup>65</sup>

The Vāyu has also a general tendency to regard Surā as an evil and calls one who drinks it as a *mahāpātakin*. But it refers to Śiva as Surāpa and derives the origin of the name Kaśyapa from his habit of drinking

55. CHI. 1. 101 ; MAC. HSL. 164 ; DAS, 202.

57. CHI. 1. 101.

58. APTE, op. cit. , 117.

60. DAS, 208 ff.

61. CHI. 1. 102,

63. Cf. APTE, op. cit., 118.

64. MEHTA, 197.

56. DAS, 202.

59. MEHTA, 196-7.

62. DAS, 210.

65. TRANA, p. 147 ff.

**Kāśya**—a kind of spirituous liquor. It is difficult to say whether these references indicate an age when the drinking of Surā was not regarded as a sin, i.e. to an age earlier than that of the Ups. when it was not so much regarded with disapproval.<sup>66</sup>

The Vāyu refers to Soma many times and associates it with gods only, thus suggesting that it was not a drink of human beings at all; but we have at one place a reference to a Dealer in Soma who was not invited for *brāddha*. This reference suggests that traffic in Soma was regarded with disapproval though such traffic was taking place. The prohibition is equally suggestive of the fact that Soma was primarily used in sacrifices and hence was considered too sacred to be an article for sale.

It is fruitless to make chronological suggestions on this evidence.

**Amṛta**: In the RV. *amṛta* is not found as a name of a divine drink. The term, however, occurs as an attribute of Soma which was regarded as a divine drink.<sup>67</sup> Soma was a stimulant and conferred immortality upon the gods.<sup>68</sup> The term Amṛta itself, signifying a celestial drink, occurs very often in the Ś. Br.<sup>69</sup> Still it has close connection with Soma. We find Soma called the nectar (*amṛta*) of immortality.<sup>70</sup> There is also a reference to Amṛta being recovered by gods.<sup>71</sup> Amṛta, as purely a drink of immortality, is many times mentioned by the Gītā.<sup>72</sup> Here we do not find it connected with Soma at all.

In the Vāyu Amṛta occurs as a drink of the gods; but there are some instances connecting it with Soma, the moon, and not with Soma the plant. This information of the Vāyu is thus assignable to a period subsequent to that of the Ś. Br. though it is difficult to say about the lowest limit of time. There is one reference stating that Amṛta was stored by the gods on the Somaka mountain but it is not clear whether this name Somaka should be connected with Soma, the drink or Soma, the moon.

**Honey**: Honey was used with food by the Rgvedic Indians.<sup>73</sup> The Ś. Br. mentions honey as the life-sap of the sky.<sup>74</sup> It even calls it a form of Soma,<sup>75</sup> and shows its use in the ritual.<sup>76</sup> The *madhuparka* offered to guests is mentioned in the AV.<sup>77</sup> Kautilya mentions it many times even in similes.<sup>78</sup> It includes also the juice of grapes in 'honey' (*madhu*).<sup>79</sup>

With the Vāyu honey is amongst its favourites, and we find even a river of honey mentioned.

66. CHI. 1. 102. 67. MAC. HSL 98. 68. Ibid.

69. SBE. 26. 374; SBE. 44. 87; SBE. 41. 164 etc.

70. SBE. 26. 385(n). Ibid. 43. 251 ff. 71. Ibid. 43. 355 ff.

72. Ibid. 8. 62, 88 ff., 126, 391. 73. DAS, 206. 74. SBE. 41. 390.

75. Ibid. 44. 243. 76. Ibid. 43. 182 ff. 77. Ibid. 42. 84.

78. Text. p. 70. 79. Trans. p. 114.

Juices : Fruits of Jambu, Panasa and Paruṣaka are mentioned in Kauṭilya<sup>80</sup> but it is not clear whether juice was extracted from them.

For want of evidence from other sources it is not possible to discuss the implications of this Vāyu material.

**Non-Vegetarian Diet :** 'The Vedic Indians were a nation of meat-eaters'.<sup>81</sup> This might have been due to the fact that they were a pastoral people.<sup>82</sup> Beef was probably the kind of meat most frequently eaten by them.<sup>83</sup> Cow is no doubt called *aghnyā* sixteen times in the RV. thus probably indicating a new school of thinkers who were opposed to the killing of cows.<sup>84</sup> Ideas of general prohibition against meat-eating appear in the Brāhmaṇa literature, but it was in the time of the Upaniṣads that we find these ideas gaining ground and becoming widely accepted. Meat-eating was regarded by Upaniṣadic teachers as one of the heinous sins.<sup>85</sup>

The Gṛhya-Sūtras also have a considerable evidence for flesh as one of the common articles of food of the people. Cows and bulls were sacrificed and the deification of the cow was still to become a settled belief. The general rule in a śrāddha is that flesh is compulsory ; in its absence only vegetable food is allowed (*śrāddhe māṁsam nityam, māṁsābhāve śākam*).<sup>86</sup> "Not only animals but even the cow was, on certain occasions, killed according to Gṛhya or Dharma Sūtras<sup>87</sup> and the Dharma-śāstra works contain numerous rules regarding flesh-eating. Gradually, however, a change came over the sentiments of the people. Megasthenes and Strabo state that the 'caste of philosophers abstained from animal food. We find in the Jātakas that fish and meat had a flourishing market and slaughter-houses were common. Such was the state of things then in eastern India.<sup>88</sup> Kauṭilya has a separate officer of state known as Superintendent of Slaughter-houses. Such Arthaśāstra, however, contains a provision prohibiting slaughter of cows and bulls.<sup>89</sup> We have the edicts of Aśoka testifying to a fact how originally thousands of animals were killed in royal kitchens and how the great emperor was determined to prevent this state of things. The Smṛti works, most of which were post-Aśokan in date, put a general ban on flesh-eating. Manu particularly appears to be a staunch opponent of flesh-eating, though he had on certain points tried to square with the views of the ancient śāstra which permitted animal food in sacrifices. He allows the use of flesh in śrāddha. But conditions seem to have been different even in Manu's days and flesh-eating was common. Gradually, however, flesh-eating was abandoned by the people of India when Vaiṣṇavism began to sway their minds.<sup>90</sup>

80. Text. p. 94.

81. CHI. 1. 101.

82. Cf. DAS, 203.

83. MAC. HSL. 164.

84. Ved. Ind., 2. 146 ; DAS, 205.

85. APTE, op. cit., 117-8.

86. Ibid. 122.

87. KANE, 2. 776.

88. Cf. MERTA, 196.

89. Trans. 151-2.

90. KANE, 2. 776-80.

There is a good deal of material on flesh-eating in our Purāṇa. Use of flesh in śrāddha was considered very meritorious and details regarding the nature of its merit are given. There is not even a trace in these details about the prohibition of eating flesh. The occasion in the story of Vikukṣi, who was nick-named Śasāda (hare-eater) was due to a śrāddha to be performed by Ikṣvāku. We find also the use of flesh, of various qualities, in Dakṣa-yajña. This state of things must be considered more ancient as compared with the Smṛti works, though it must remain a tentative inference. There are three incidents which occur in the genealogical accounts connected with flesh-eating. (i) The reference to the hunting of buffaloes indicating that they were wild beasts still undomesticated. It means that this fact of material culture squares well with the antiquity of the king Ikṣvāku as indicated in political history. The statement that his son Vikukṣi ate the flesh on his way might be suggestive of crude methods of cooking, thus strengthening the above chronological point. But we find an explanation of the term *māmsa* which occurs *verbatim* in the Manu-smṛti (V. 55). This stanza appears quite unnecessary in the context and must be considered as a later interpolation probably by a redactor who sided with the views of Manu. It is necessary to mention here that the Mbh. does not include this stanza in connection with Vikukṣi.

The incident of Pṛadhra does not essentially indicate that cow-slaughter was regarded as a sin. It seems more probable that Cyavana cursed him because *his* cow was slaughtered, that being an offence against his ownership of the cow. Thus this incident is not a definite instance of the prohibition of eating beef, less so of flesh-eating in general. On the other hand, it proves that beef was eaten by the Kṣatriyas while among the Śūdras it was a common practice.

The story of Triśaṅku also leads us to the same conclusion. PARCITER considers the incident of Satyavrata killing Vasiṣṭha's cow as "not improbable." It is important to note that Vasiṣṭha did almost nothing against Satyavrata except that he stigmatised Satyavrata as Triśaṅku (i.e. a man of three stains of sins). He did not even curse him. The whole incident does not indicate anything about the sanctity of the cow and prohibition of cow-slaughter for ordinary purposes (i.e. other than sacrificial). Had such a state of things existed, as it apparently was, at the time of Kauṭilya, we would have found traces of it in that work. This leads us to conclude that the story fits well in the matter of flesh-eating with its antiquity indicated by the political history.



## CHAPTER VIII

### MUSIC AND DANCING

**Music in General:** In the age of the ṚV. music<sup>1</sup> had already advanced beyond the primitive stage and some musical instruments were used. The hymns themselves prove that singing was highly esteemed.<sup>1</sup> The best evidence for the antiquity of music is, of course, the Sāmaveda. It is even suggested that it was practically a musical rendering of the ṚV.<sup>2</sup> The Sāmaveda was sung according to very strict rules.<sup>3</sup> The Jātakas show music and dancing as despised callings.<sup>4</sup> But the earliest reference to musical theory as such is found in the Ṛkprātiśākhya.<sup>5</sup>

**Association of the Gandharvas, etc., and of the Ritual with Music:** The ṚV. shows music as connected with ritual. The singing of the Brahmins at the time of pressing the Soma is alluded to in the Froghymn (VII. 103, 7-8). But the Gandharvas of the Vedic mythology nowhere appear as celestial singers.<sup>6</sup> The germs of this idea, however, can be traced in the Vedas. For instance, we find in the Ś. Br. (II. 5. 1) the Gandharvas connected with the ritual where Purūravas is said to have obtained the sacrificial fire from the Gandharvas. They are also often associated with Soma in the ṚV.<sup>7</sup> But the idea becomes more prominent when we find in the Ś. Br. (11, 6, 1) the Apsarasas—the female associates of Gandharvas from the ṚV. onwards—<sup>8</sup> described as engaged in dance, song and play. By the time of the Jātakas, however, the close association of Gandharvas with music had become an established fact; for we find there the art of music called by the name Gāndharva Veda as being one of the 18 *śippas* or subjects of study.<sup>9</sup> In the Jātakas they often appear as heavenly musicians.<sup>10</sup> It is unnecessary to dilate on the subsequent history of this association.

It should be noted that there is no evidence of the connection of Gandharvas of the Sāmaveda either in the Vedas or in the Jātakas and it is difficult to say at this state of our knowledge whether such an evidence can be traced in the epics and later literature.

In the light of this history of associations, the Vāyu references to Gandharvas as celestial musicians might be either contemporaneous with or later than the period of the Jātakas. It is interesting in this connection to note that the Vāyu also says that the Gāndharva-vidyā is

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1. CHI. 1 103; DAS, 234 ff.; DIKSHITAR, *Aspects of the Vā. Pur.*, 34.
  2. DIKSHITAR, *ibid.* 3. POPLEY, 8-9.
  4. CHI. 1. 207; cf. also PICK, 291; MENTA, 312 ff. 5. POPLEY, 9.
  6. MACDONELL, *Vedic Mythology*, 137. 7. *Ibid.* 136. 8. *Ibid.* 134 ff.
  9. LAW, *India as Reflected in the Early Texts of Jainism and Buddhism*, 249; MENTA, 342 ff.
  10. DAVIDS, 220.

one of the 18 *vidyās*—a fact worthy of comparison with the 18 *śippas* of the *Jātakas* mentioned above.

The Gandharvas of the *Vāyu* are connected with the ritual especially in connection with the chanting of the *Sāmaveda*. In the *Vedas* they are no doubt associated with the ritual and especially with *Soma* and not with the *Sāmaveda*. The *Udgātā* was a special priest who chanted the *Sāmans*. As already stated above, it is not possible to comment on this at this stage.

**Association of Śiva with Music :** Nowhere in the Vedic mythology do we find Śiva connected with music and dancing.<sup>11</sup> In the *Rāmāyaṇa*, however, there is an indirect connection between Śiva and music where *Rāvaṇa* is described in that epic (VII. 16. 35) as praising the god *Śaṅkara* with *Sāma* hymns.<sup>12</sup> But this is found in the 7th *Kāṇḍa* of that work which is considered by scholars to be a later interpolation.<sup>13</sup>

The *Vāyu* evidence shows Śiva very often associated with music and the antiquity of this evidence cannot be discussed here for want of relevant information from other sources.

#### MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS :

**Bherī :** It is not mentioned in the *RV*. But the *Jātakas* mention it.<sup>14</sup> In the *Rāmāyaṇa* its use is found in the military band, i.e., as a trumpet.<sup>15</sup> In the *Mbh.*, too, it is frequently mentioned.<sup>16</sup>

The *Vāyu* sets it in connection with Śiva-worship and does not show its use in war.

**Diṇḍīma :** It is not mentioned in the Vedic literature, but the *Jātakas* have it.<sup>17</sup> The *Rāmāyaṇa*<sup>18</sup> testifies to its existence as also the *Mbh.*<sup>19</sup> The *Rāmāyaṇa* says that it had a leather facing.

The *Vāyu* information is the same as in the case of *Bherī*.

**Dundubhi :** In the early Vedic times it was used both in war and peace.<sup>20</sup> The *Jātakas* are silent about it, but in the epics we find it very commonly used on the battle-field.<sup>21</sup> In *Kauṭilya* it is the same.<sup>22</sup>

The *Vāyu* also seems to hint that it was used in war, for the noise of the drums of *Suras* is described as being as terrible as death.

**Gomukha :** It is said to be "a wind instrument" of shell species, a kind of conch somewhat resembling the mouth of the cow, whence it derives its name.<sup>23</sup> The *Vedas* do not know it though it appears that the flute (another kind of wind instrument) has a Vedic antiquity

11. MACDONELL, op. cit.

12. IC. 4. 445.

13. See JACOBI, *Das Rāmāyaṇa*; cf. also MAC. HSL. 304.

14. MEHTA, 315.

15. IC. 4. 451.

16. JAOS. 13.

17. See *paṇava-ḍaṇḍīma*, cf. MEHTA, 315.

18. IC. 4. 451.

19. JAOS. 13.

20. DAS, 234.

21. IC. 4. 451 and JAOS. 13.

22. P. 401.

23. TAGORE, *Hindu Musical Instruments*, 4.

(see Venu). The Jātakas are silent about it and Kauṭilya also does not mention it. But there are many references to it in the epics.<sup>24</sup>

About the Gomukhas in the Vāyu we can say the same as in the case of Bherī.

*Jharjhara*: It was a kind of drum.<sup>25</sup> Though the RV. mentions Dundubhi (i.e. a drum) we do not find Jharjhara there. The Jātakas too are silent and so is the Rāmāyaṇa.<sup>26</sup> The Mbh. has it.<sup>27</sup> About its use in later times it is difficult to be definite at the present state of our knowledge.

The Vāyu mentions it in the same manner as in the case of Bherī.

✓ *Mukhavāditra*: Probably this term signified a general class of musical instruments to be played upon with the mouth. The same might be said of Mukhamardalavāditra. The Bherī, Diṇḍima, Dundubhi, Jharjhara, Mṛdaṅga, etc., might have belonged to another class.

We do not find the term in the RV. which knows only the Dundubhi, belonging to this class. Though the Jātakas refer to various kinds of drums we do not know whether this was then known. We are right in assuming from the number of such instruments and from the then general condition of the science of music that the term might have been known.<sup>28</sup>

The Vāyu shows that they were "beaten" (*sphoṭitaiḥ*) with force and connects them exclusively with Śiva.

*Mṛdaṅga*: It is not mentioned in the RV. The Jātakas<sup>29</sup> mention *Mūṅgā* probably the same as Mṛdaṅga. But Kauṭilya knows it well.<sup>30</sup> The Rāmāyaṇa<sup>31</sup> mentions Mṛdaṅga as also the Mbh.<sup>32</sup> In later literature we find the origin of this instrument attributed to Brahmā made to serve as an accompaniment to the dance of Śiva in honour of his victory over the three cities and that Gaṇeśa first played upon it.<sup>33</sup>

The Vāyu associates this instrument with the Kuruṣ who used it in their sports for entertainment. The information occurs not in the genealogical accounts but in the chapters on geography. Of the later story of its origin the Vāyu knows nothing. The Rāmāyaṇa tells us that it was also used in war but there is no such reference in the Vāyu.

*Paṇava*: It is not found mentioned in the RV. and the *paṇava-danḍima* is mentioned in the Jātakas; and this Paṇava is probably the same as our Paṇava.<sup>34</sup> The Rāmāyaṇa mentions its use in military bands,<sup>35</sup> and the Mbh. confirms this.<sup>36</sup>

24. JAOS. 13. Miss DHARMA does not mention it as being found in the Rāmāyaṇa. But TAGORE says so without quoting the exact source of his information.

25. MONIER WILLIAMS, *Sanskrit English Dictionary*.

27. JAOS. 13.

30. P. 125.

33. POPLEY, 120. No reference is given by the author.

34. Cf. MERTA, 315.

26. IC. 4. 451.

28. Cf. MERTA, 312-5.

31. IC. 4. 451.

35. IC. 4. 451.

29. *Ibid*.

32. JAOS. 13.

36. JAOS. 13.

The Vāyu associates its use with the Kurus as above.

*Paṭaha* : It is not mentioned in the Vedas nor in the Jātakas. It is, however, mentioned in the epics.<sup>37</sup>

The Vāyu mentions it in the same manner as the Bherī.

*Raṣṭālasita* : Was it a musical instrument at all? There is no reference to it in works on music.

The Vāyu mentions it with Bherī and others mentioned above.

*Śaṅkha* : The RV. does not refer to it; but the Jātakas mention it. In the epic war-scenes use of the śaṅkhas is very common,<sup>38</sup> and we find in the Gītā the śaṅkhas of various warriors mentioned by name.<sup>39</sup> Kauṭilya testifies to the use of śaṅkhas in war.<sup>40</sup>

The Vāyu, however, shows its use only in connection with the worship of Śiva by the Bhūtas.

*Tumba* : We have no information on it from the other ancient sources.

The Vāyu mentions it to be the pet instrument of Śiva.

*Viṇā* : The RV. mentions that Kṣoṇi or Viṇā was the musical instrument of the Maruts.<sup>41</sup> The Jātakas shed more light on the construction, size and use of this instrument. It was very popular in the period of the Jātakas.<sup>42</sup> In the Rāmāyaṇa it is a favourite instrument of the songsters,<sup>43</sup> and similar is the case with the Mbh.<sup>44</sup> Kauṭilya also mentions it.<sup>45</sup>

The Vāyu refers to Viṇā at four places mostly associating it with Śiva and the Kurus. Of Śiva it was a pet instrument.

*Veṇu* : The RV. mentions Vāṇa and Das suggests the Veṇu might have been a later corruption of Vāṇa. But there is no definite opinion on this point.<sup>46</sup> In the Jātakas, however, the Veṇu or flute is found to be a popular wind instrument.<sup>47</sup> The epics also mention Veṇu.<sup>48</sup>

The Vāyu associates it with the Kurus already mentioned above.

**Dancing** : In the RV. we find that "dancing was practised and dancing of maidens is several times mentioned ; it seems that men also danced occasionally in the open air, as a metaphor alludes to the dust of the dancing feet of men."<sup>49</sup> In the Ś. Br. the Apsarasas are described as engaged in dance, song and play.<sup>50</sup> But the Kinnaras are not mentioned in the Vedas. In the Jātakas we find dancing as a despised

37. Cf. IC. 4. 451 and JAOS. 13.

39. SBE. 8. 38.

42. MEHTA, 313-34.

45. P. 125. For the history of Viṇā in later period, cf. ABORI. 12. 362 ff.

46. Cf. Das, 233.

49. CHI. 1. 102-3 and Das, 236.

40. P. 401.

43. IC. 4. 450 ff.

47. MEHTA, 315.

38. IC. 4. 451 and JAOS. 13.

41. Das, 234.

44. JAOS. 13.

48. IC. 4. 451 and JAOS. 13.

50. MACDONELL, op. cit., 134.

calling.<sup>51</sup> In them we find Apsarasas and Kinnaras associated with dancing.<sup>52</sup> Pāṇini, in his comments upon the root *nṛt*—to dance—mentions two persons named Śilālin and Kṛśāsvin as the authors of two sets of sūtras on dancing.<sup>53</sup> The Arthaśāstra deals with the life and duties of dancing girls.<sup>54</sup>

It appears that the art of dancing was cultivated by the ladies of the royal family and the families of the rich from very early times.<sup>55</sup> But by the period of the Jātakas it seems to have declined in the estimation of the members of the higher strata of society. It subsequently tended to become a profession of a hereditary caste.

The custom of association of dancing girls is nowhere evident till the time of Kauṭilya at the latest; and its origin might be assigned to a period of about 300 A.D. as Kālidāsa some time later shows awareness of it and several Purāṇas devote their attention to it.<sup>56</sup>

In the Vāyu we find dancing connected mostly with Śiva and with Kinnaras, Apsarasas and Gandharvas. Our text is silent on the point whether dancing was a despised calling but the fact that god Śiva himself danced and the munis worshipped that deity with dance and song would lead us to infer otherwise. Except in one instance, all references to dancing in the Vāyu occur in mythological setting and their value may be judged accordingly. The one instance, referred to above, which occurs in genealogical accounts is also doubtful as the reading is confusing, and thus there is nothing to suggest as to whether dancing was a favourite pastime with the royal ladies or not. There is, however, one certain chronological pointer to the Vāyu material on dancing, i.e., regarding the custom of dancing girls, attached to temple-establishments. The Vāyu is absolutely ignorant of it. Since this custom had attracted the attention of several Purāṇas we might naturally have expected reference to it in the Vāyu if it had known it. Thus tentatively it becomes a good proposition to make that the Vāyu-material on dancing can be relegated to a time prior to the third century A.D.

On the art of dancing itself the Vāyu has some technical details to give us and they are already dealt with by Mr. DIKSHITAR in his work quoted above. In the absence of any studied information on the ancient history of this aspect of dancing we are unable to comment on the same. It must be stated, however, that this material also is included in the probably interpolated portion referred to above.

#### RE'SUME'

Some observations may here be made as they are indicated in our discussion of the musical instruments. The number of these instruments found in the Vāyu is not very large. Few of them are mentioned

51. CHI. 1. 207; LAW, op. cit., 179; MEHTA, 312-3. 52. MEHTA, 313.

53. POPELY, 9. 54. ALTEKAR, 214. 55. *Ibid.* 213. 56. *Ibid.* 214-5.

in the RV., many in the Jātakas and a few in the epics and later literature. Our text shows no reminiscences of the various theories of the origin of music current in later mythology. We, no doubt, find Śiva closely associated with music but the information does not amount to a set theory that Śiva was the founder-deity of Hindu music. The association of music with the ritual is as old as the Vedas but its connection with the Gandharvas is certainly not Vedic though anterior to the period of the Jātakas. It must also be noted in passing that the whole of our information from the Vāyu on music is unconnected with the historical setting and is wrapped up with mythological lining. It is in this perspective that we have to judge the antiquity of this material.

There is a *lacuna* in the Vāyu statements regarding the chanting of the Sāmaveda by the Gandharvas. With the present condition of our researches it is impossible to fix its location chronologically.

The Vāyu has two chapters (86. 3 ff. to 87 end) which deal exclusively with music—especially on the theoretical side of it. It should be noted that some Mss. omit this portion of our text. As DIKSHITAR has dealt with this material in his "*Some Aspects of the Vāyu Purāṇa*",<sup>57</sup> it would be an unnecessary repetition to discuss the same here. It will suffice to refer to his chronological findings in this connection. "Taking the first chapter we find that the rules which are laid down are a mingling of both the schools, orthodox and secular. The Purāṇa does not mention either the famous author Bharata or his treatise. We have, therefore, to credit these portions of the Purāṇa as materials of an earlier epoch, earlier than the Bharatanāṭya Śāstra. It may be noted in passing that in some respects the injunctions agree with those of the Nāradiya Śikṣā."<sup>58</sup>

Again the names of *tānas* which are found in the text are different from those found in extant works on music. Thus we are forced to assume that the Vāyu contents of music are certainly old, older than any regular treatise on the science of music.<sup>59</sup>

It has already been observed that some Mss. omit this portion of the text and it is likely that it did not form part of the original text and was probably incorporated into the text afterwards. But even this interpolated matter is old as will be obvious from the findings of DIKSHITAR.

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57. Pp. 34-7.

58. *Ibid.* 34.

59. *Ibid.* 35.

## CHAPTER IX

### WAR AND WEAPONS

**Of War in General :** Unfortunately the Vāyu sheds little light on the art of war in ancient India. The wars alluded to in the text belong mostly to the domain of mythology and hence of little historical value.

**Composition of the Army :** The technical term *caturaṅga-senā* which first occurs in the Jātakas<sup>1</sup> and which became a common feature in the description of an army in the epics and the later literature is not mentioned by our text,<sup>2</sup> nor does the text show us anything of the sixfold division of the army, the earliest references to which are found in Kauṭilya and the Mbh.<sup>3</sup> An army composed of elephants, horses and chariots (infantry is omitted probably for the sake of convenience) is no doubt mentioned in the description of war at the end of Kali. This reference might indicate the knowledge of a four-fold army. Here we might have a recognition of an existing fact of the time when the reference was incorporated into the text—i.e. perhaps at a time when such an army was known but still not so standardized as to be expressed by such a technical term as the *caturaṅga-senā*. Had this term become very common we would probably have not missed it in the text.

(i) *Infantry* : About this we have no gleanings from the texts.

(ii) *Cavalry* : In the later Saṃhitās we find references suggesting the use of horses, for riding had certainly become more common ; but no clear reference is made to the employment of cavalry in war.<sup>4</sup> Upto the period indicated by the Jātakas we do not find cavalry in the armies of ancient India. But by the time of Alexander cavalry had secured a place in the army of king Porus, though it did not prove effective against the disciplined Greek cavalry. We find also Kauṭilya emphasizing the use of cavalry in war.<sup>5</sup> In the Mbh. cavalry is recognized as a part of the armed forces.<sup>6</sup>

The Vāyu in its accounts of the genealogies is silent on cavalry. We have one instance in which Śatadhanvan is shown riding on a mare and Kṛṣṇa pursuing him in a chariot. But this had nothing to do with cavalry. The only instances referring to cavalry occur in connection

1. DIKSHITAR, *Hindu Administrative Institutions*, 293. DIKSHITAR says that the organisation of the Indian army which came to be known as *Caturaṅga*, both in epic Sanskrit and Pāli literature, was based on the ancient game of Chess. See his *War in Ancient India* pp. 153-156, for details of the discussion on this topic.

2. Cf. CHAKRAVARTY, 1-2.

3. *Ibid.* 3.

4. CHI. 1. 137; DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 174; cf. also DAS, op. cit., 347 who says that employment of cavalry was known in the Rgvedic period.

5. CHAKRAVARTY, 35-6; see also DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 175-9.

6. J.AOS. 13. 265.

with the accounts of the end of the Kali age and they point to an age indicated in the above discussion on the composition of the army.

(iii) *Elephants*: Elephants were not used in war in Vedic times. The YV. first mentions "an elephant trainer" (*hastipa*) and we find references in the AV. to domesticated elephants.<sup>7</sup> It is, however, in the Jātakas that we, for the first time, find elephants used in military operations<sup>8</sup> and the Great Epic has many instances of this kind.<sup>9</sup> Their use in the Indian armies of later times is too well-known to need mention here.<sup>10</sup>

The Vāyu genealogical accounts are silent on this except in its description of the end of the Kali age.

(iv) *Chariots*: In most of the ancient countries of the world we find that chariots were used in war. The war-chariot was known to ancient Egypt, Assyria and Babylonia.<sup>11</sup> The Aryans were experts in the use of war-chariots long before their entry into India and it is said that the introduction of the use of horse-drawn war-chariots into Babylonia in about 2000 B.C. was primarily due to them.<sup>12</sup> Two model chariots have been found at Harappa and cart-frames are common in the finds of Mohenjo-daro.<sup>13</sup> There are numerous references to war-chariots in the RV.<sup>14</sup> The AV. (IV. 125) contains a hymn addressed to war-chariot. But it appears that by the time of Alexander chariots had ceased to be the important arm of the armies of ancient India.<sup>15</sup> King Porus did make use of his chariotry against Alexander but with no useful result. The evidence from the Arthasāstra shows that the Mauryas kept a chariot arm.<sup>16</sup> But we find a gradual decline of war-chariots from the scenes of war after the Mauryan period so that at the end of the 8th century A. D. we hear of them no more in the battles fought on the soil of India.<sup>17</sup>

In the Vāyu a halo of sanctity is attached to the chariot of Yayāti so much so that its history had been a topic of narration. The same was the case with the chariot of Kārtavīrya Arjuna and the epithet *rathin* has been used in the case of many kings too numerous to mention. This preponderance of the war-chariot tends to suggest that it was the only vehicle of war that could find a place in the summary narration of the dynasties of the kings of yore. The absence of references to cavalry

7. CHI. 1. 137. 8. CHAKRAVARTY, 47 ff. 9. JAOS. 13. 265.

10. See CHAKRAVARTY, 47 ff. and also DIKSHITAR, op. cit., p. 166 ff.

11. H. R. HALL, *The Ancient History of the Near East*, 181, 213, 446; SYDNEY SMITH, *Early History of Assyria*, 11, 58, 213-4, 254.

12. HALL, op. cit., 213 and cf. also CHILDE, *Aryans*, 18, 27.

13. Mohenjo-daro, 2, 554 ff., 1. 273 fn. 2. *Further Excavations at Mohenjo-daro*, 1. 568-70.

14. Cf. DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 157 ff., DAS, op. cit., 22b-7.

15. CHAKRAVARTY, 23. 16. DIKSHITAR, *War in Ancient India*, 161-3.



and elephants is instructive. The genealogical accounts are faithful to the facts of antiquity which testify that chariots alone have a hoary antiquity to their credit in the history of the art of war. The reference to war-chariots in the turmoil at the end of Kali need not be taken seriously in this connection.

Of the equipment and size of chariots we have little information from the Vāyu. The reference to 1000 horses drawing the chariot of Brahmā is historically valueless as it occurs in a mythological setting. It is likely that the chariot in which Kṛṣṇa pursued Śatadhanvan was a small-sized vehicle drawn by at least four horses (cf. *hayāḥ*, plural, not dual) for only Kṛṣṇa and Rāma appear to have been in that chariot. This is merely an inference though it is supported by the Mbh which often mentions Kṛṣṇa in that manner.<sup>18</sup> The most common embellishment of the war-chariot which the Vāyu often mentions is its *dhvaja*. The standard or flag might have served as a distinctive device of the warrior as is often the case in the Mbh.<sup>19</sup> The Mbh., however, often mentions *chhattra* also in this connection and HOPKINS says that references to it in the Great Epic must have belonged to a later age and that it is to be "associated with the mass of effeminate luxuries depicted long after the original".<sup>20</sup> It is significant that the Vāyu does not mention this *chhattra*, a fact which is chronologically so suggestive that it can be incorporated in the floating tradition "long after the original."

It appears that only horses were yoked to the chariots. The references to asses, monkeys, etc., yoked to chariots as seen in a dream occur in a different context not concerned materially with our topic.

#### THE ANCIENT INDIAN ARMS AND WEAPONS

The Bow and the Arrows: The origin of the bow is still a mystery. It was used in ancient Egypt, Babylonia and Assyria. We find evidence of its use in about the 3rd or 4th millenium B.C. by the people of the Indus Valley.<sup>21</sup> The evidence of comparative philology takes its use right upto the time of the primitive Indo-Europeans.<sup>22</sup> In the RV. it is most frequently mentioned and practically no other weapon played any substantial part in the Vedic warfare.<sup>23</sup> "Throughout the ancient period it was the weapon *par excellence* of the Hindus." It gave its name to the military science and proficiency in its use was

17. For Bāṇa, the author of *Harja-Carita* (7th century A.D.) in his description of Emperor Harja's army does not make any reference to the use of chariots in war. See DIKSHITAR, op. cit., 165-6.

18. CHAKRAVARTY, 29.

21. *Mohenjo-daro*, 2, 392-3.

22. Cf. SCHRADER, *Prehistoric Antiquities of the Aryan Peoples*, and cf. also CHILDE, op. cit., 85, 92, 185.

23. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 388.

19. *JAOS*, 13, 243-4.

20. *JAOS*, 13, 246.

the measure of one's reputation as a warrior.<sup>24</sup> In the Jātakas we find the science of archery having attained a high state of efficiency.<sup>25</sup> In the Mbh. we find that the bow, the arrow and the quiver are inevitably the most important.<sup>26</sup>

In the Vāyu also the bow is the most frequently mentioned weapon of war. There are some references which smack of its antiquity. The primitive king Pṛthu is said to have been born with a bow, arrows and an armour. It is difficult to decide whether 'ādyam' in the text is to be construed with the bow. If this is the interpretation, it would mean that Pṛthu was the inventor of the bow. But there is no other evidence to maintain this. The fact that king Yayāti, on the eve of his retirement to forest-life, relinquished his kingdom, bow and arrows to his son is highly suggestive of antiquity. It is interesting in this connection to note that in the funeral hymn of the RV. the last act of the funeral rite included removal of the bow from the right hand of the dead man (RV. X. 18.9); and entry into the life of retirement almost amounted to civil death. The bow was also a unit of measurement and the science of archery passed into the list of the eighteen vidyās. The bow and arrows are also the objects of boons to warriors and of magical devices. Bows are also given pet-names and prominent personages of the tradition are often mentioned as having been the masters of the art of archery. All these facts about the bow and the arrow show their importance in the estimation of the Vāyu Purāṇa tradition.

About the size of the bow and the material of which it was made our text indicates nothing except that the bow-string was not tied to both ends always.

**The Arrows and the Quiver:** The arrows are often the subjects of magical devices in the Vāyu; e.g. we find arrows 'burning' cities and 'stunning' a whole city. It is equally interesting to hear of 'ever-full' quivers. Except from the word *śara* implying that arrows were made of reed there is no information from the Vāyu about the size and materials of arrows.

**The Sword : *Asi and Khaḍga* :** The use of the sword was known in ancient Near East<sup>27</sup> and to the ancient Greeks of Homer.<sup>28</sup> The kind of sword used by the Indo-Europeans was not originally a slashing but a thrusting weapon.<sup>29</sup> No sword or sword-blade was found in the Mohenjo-daro and Harappa excavations<sup>30</sup> The Vedic Aryans used it rarely. In the Mbh., however, we find Bhīṣma favouring it even more

24. CHAKRAVARTY, 152, cf. also DIKSHITAR, op. cit., pp. 93-101.

25. MERTA, 311. 26. JAOS. 13, 269 ff.

27. *Babylonia and Assyria*; cf. PETRIE, *Tools and Weapons*.

28. HALL, op. cit., 38; CHILDE, op. cit., 29, 51. 29. CHILDE, op. cit., 85.

30. *Mohenjo-daro*, 2, 35, cf. JISOA, 4, 101.

than the bow. The same book of the Mbh. also contains a legend regarding the mystic and divine origin of the sword.<sup>31</sup> "The epic age seemed to represent an epoch where the bow is yielding to the sword. In the final epic it reigns supreme."<sup>32</sup>

The Vāyu mentions *asi* only in connection with Śiva and the Bhūtas, i.e., in a mythological setting. Khadga is mentioned twice. The sword of Kamsa was sheathed and he had 'drawn' the weapon out of its sheath to kill his sister. The other reference is in connection with Kārtavīrya who is called a Khadgin. About the kinds of sword, its size and manner of use, the text tells us nothing. It is not clear whether Khatvāṅga was more of a kind of khadga than a separate weapon. Thus with our text the sword is not a popular and important weapon of war; and it is interesting to compare this with the information of the Mbh. The historical stages in the evolution of the use of the sword are pointers to the antiquity of the Vāyu material.

The Battle-axe: *Khaṇḍaparaśu*, *Kuliśa*, *Paraśu*, *Paraśva*, *Paṭṭiśa*: Copper axes have been discovered at Mohenjo-daro.<sup>33</sup> The use of the axe was known to the primitive Aryans.<sup>34</sup> It is mentioned in the RV. where it is more of a tool than a weapon.<sup>35</sup> Kautilya refers to *paraśu* and *kūṭhāra* as being two kinds of axes and the commentator explains the latter as the "kind of axe well-known".<sup>36</sup> The axe (*paraśu*, *paraśvadha*, *kuliśa*, and *kūṭhāra*) of the Mbh. might be termed as a royal weapon being chiefly used by the nobles and is often mentioned as a missile.<sup>37</sup>

The Vāyu does not mention the *kūṭhāra* known to Kautilya. Our Purāṇa associates the axe only with Śiva and not with any historical personage. It would be natural to expect *paraśu* mentioned in connection with Jāmadagnya Rāma as in the Mbh.,<sup>38</sup> but the Vāyu is silent on this. This is a fact which may reflect on the relative chronology of the respective references of the two works. Our Purāṇa, however, mentions two more varieties of the weapon noted neither by HOPKINS nor by CHAKRAVARTY. They are the *paraśva* and the *khaṇḍa-paraśu*. For want of corroborative evidence from other sources it is difficult to say as to what they exactly signify.

Kautilya classified *paṭṭiśa* with *paraśu* and *kūṭhāra* and it is stated that this *paṭṭiśa* was "a kind of bill or halberd".<sup>39</sup> But HOPKINS

31. HOPKINS, *Epic Mythology*, 176.

32. JAOS, 13, 284.

33. *Mohenjo-daro*, 1, 35 ff.; 2, 493.

34. CHILDE, op. cit., 85.

35. DAS, op. cit., 335; CHILDE, op. cit., 30.

36. CHAKRAVARTY, 171 fn. 1.

37. JAOS, 13, 291.

38. So far as the critical edition of the Ādiparvan goes he is simply called as "wielder of weapons" and is not associated with the *paraśu* distinctively; cf. BDCRI, 5, 157; but on the whole he does figure in the epic in this character. Cf. HOPKINS, *Epic Mythology*.

39. CHAKRAVARTY, 171 fn. 1.

takes the Mbh. paṭṭiśa to be a kind of spear.<sup>40</sup> It is difficult to say which of these two is signified by the Vāyu paṭṭiśa.

**Discus : Cakra :** It is suggested that a kind of boomerang which is supposed to return after striking the enemy, was used by the Sumerians in Assyria.<sup>41</sup> Even today the aborigines of Australia use this kind of weapon.<sup>42</sup> But it is not certain whether the discus is the same kind of weapon. The RV. mentions discus as a weapon of Indra but it does not appear to have ever become a national favourite.<sup>43</sup> Kauṭilya defines it as a movable machine (*cala-yantra*)<sup>44</sup> and the Mbh. describes it as a revolving weapon made of iron or steel and sharp-edged.<sup>45</sup>

The Vāyu associates its use mostly with Viṣṇu. The *cakra* of Viṣṇu appears to have been a missile and is called *astra*. It was probably a magical device for we are told that Viṣṇu "meditated" upon it before he made use of it. The reference to Śiva's *śāyaka-cakra* needs an explanation which it is difficult to suggest at this juncture.

**The Club or the Mace : Gadā and Mudgara :** It was known also to the people of the Indus Valley, as maces of stone and copper have been discovered at Mohenjo-daro and Harappa.<sup>46</sup> The use of a club or a mace was known to the Indo-Europeans.<sup>47</sup> The Rgvedic Aryans continued to use it.<sup>48</sup> The Śibis who opposed Alexander used mostly clubs and we have a statement from Plutarch that in the capital of Malloi Alexander received a blow on his neck from a club which forced him to lean for support against the wall with his face towards the enemy.<sup>49</sup> In the Mbh. it stands second to the bow in general esteem and appears to have been used more often than the sword. There we find a favourite club of a warrior having its own name and set-duels of club-men are often described in the epic.<sup>50</sup>

Except for the instance of Duryodhana acquiring the divine knowledge of wielding the *gadā* from Balabhadra all the Purāṇa references to *gadā* occur in the mythological setting connecting its use mainly with Śiva and Viṣṇu. We find *mudgara* also mentioned in connection with Śiva and the Bhūtas. But was it a mace? HOPKINS takes the epic *mudgara* to be a hammer made of iron which, according to him, was distinctly a missile.<sup>51</sup>

40. JAOS. 13. 289.

41. SYDNEY SMITH, op. cit., 63.

42. SOLLAS, *Ancient Hunters and their Modern Representatives*.

43. CHAKRAVARTY, 171.

44. *Ibid.*

45. *Ibid.* cf. also BDCRI. 5. 154 for Viṣṇu's *cakra*. According to DIKSHITAR it was a circular disc with a small opening in the middle. It was of three kinds of eight, six and four spokes. It was used in five or six ways. It resembled the quoit of the Sikhs today. The various uses of the disc were felling, whirling, rending, breaking, severing and cutting. See op. cit., p. 109.

46. CHILDE, op. cit., 85.

47. *Mohenjo-daro*, 1. 36.

48. DAS, op. cit.

49. CHAKRAVARTY, 168-9.

50. JAOS. 13. 281.

51. *Ibid.* 291.

**Spear : Śakti, Śūla :** Spear-heads have been discovered in Mohenjodaro and Harappa.<sup>52</sup> The primitive Aryans knew the use of spear as a weapon of war<sup>53</sup> and the Vedic Aryans continued to use it.<sup>54</sup> The word *śakti* meaning 'spear' is found in the RV.<sup>55</sup> Kauṭilya defines it as a weapon provided with edges like a ploughshare.<sup>56</sup> In the Mbh. '*śakti*' means a spear or a javelin particularly used as an adjunct to the bow by the warrior in the chariot. There it does not essentially belong to the knight's furnishings.<sup>57</sup> The *śūla* is almost always associated with Śiva in early Indian coins. The *triśūla* is found on the coins of the Pāñcāla king Rudragupta, on other early coins and on the coins of Vema Kadphises.<sup>58</sup>

The Vāyu associates *śakti* only with Kārtikeya and *śūla* and *triśūla* with Śiva.

**Ploughshare : Hala :** The Vāyu mentions this as a weapon of Kṛṣṇa's brother Balarāma who is called Halin ; the only other wielder of this weapon is Śiva according to the Vāyu.<sup>59</sup>

**Vajra :** It is mentioned in the RV. mostly as a weapon of Indra.<sup>60</sup> It is suggested that it was originally made of stone and later of bone.<sup>61</sup> In later literature its use as a weapon becomes rare.

The Vāyu uses it mostly in connection with Indra and Śiva. It, however, shows a stage when vajra as a weapon was probably no longer in use and the term was often metaphorically used.

**Śṛṅga :** From the solitary reference to Indra as a bearer of *śṛṅga* in our Purāṇa it is difficult to arrive at any conclusion.

**Tigra :** Only Śiva is mentioned by the Vāyu to have used it. We have no information from other sources to discuss anything about it here.

**Astra :** They are mostly magical weapons supposed to have been used.<sup>62</sup>

**Ankuśa :** It was probably not a weapon of war, and was probably used only to control elephants.

**Conch : Śaṅkha :** Already referred to as a musical instrument.

**Noose or Lasso : Pāśa :** "The pāśa was a sort of lariat or lasso. It is mentioned in the RV. as one of the weapons of Varuṇa and Soma."<sup>63</sup> The Mbh. also makes allusions to it.<sup>64</sup>

The Vāyu mentions it only in connection with Śiva.

**Defensive Armour :** No defensive armour has been discovered from the Indus Valley. The RV. mentions *drāpi* and *varman* in the

52. Mohenjodaro, 1.

55. DAB, op. cit., 334.

58. SANKALIA, BDCRI, 5. 153.

59. The Mbh. also associates Balarāma with this weapon ; cf. BDCRI, 5.

60. DAB, 51.

61. Ibid.

62. Cf. JAOS, 13. 296 ff. for the views of HOPKINS on the matter.

63. CHAKRAVARTY.

64. Ibid.

53. CHILDE, op. cit., 85. 1.

56. CHAKRAVARTY, 166.

54. CHAKRAVARTY, 166.

57. JAOS, 13. 287-8.

sense of coat-of-mail or body-armour.<sup>65</sup> The *varūtha* also finds mention in the ṚV. but it does not seem to have been much used by the warrior in those days.<sup>66</sup> The AV. uses the term *kavaca* in the sense of corselet or breast-plate.<sup>67</sup> In the 4th century B.C. we find that coats-of-mail were used by Indian kings in their wars against Alexander; for king Porus, according to the Greek writers, used metal armour.<sup>68</sup> Kautilya refers to different kinds of body-armour and he also furnishes us details about the construction of shields in his days. '*Kavaca*' according to him was an iron armour and he says that *varman* is a kind of protective clothing made of skin-hides of elephants, cattle, etc.<sup>69</sup> The Mbh. also makes frequent references to them.<sup>70</sup> Most of them are associated by our Purāna with Śiva and his associates. '*Kavaca*' however is mentioned by the Vāyu with reference to kings Pṛthu and Rukmakavaca. The fact that king Rukmakavaca killed "many who wore *kavaca*" with sharp arrows shows that these *kavacas* were probably not made of iron. If this can be assumed to have been the case, we have to remark that the genealogical portion in which this reference to *kavaca* occurs is faithful to the antiquity which it depicts; for we have no definite evidence up-to-date whether metal-armours were used by the warriors of Ṛgvedic Aryans; it is mentioned probably for the first time, in the AV.

#### Résumé :

It would be seen from the recorded information above that most of these weapons are associated either with Śiva, his followers and sons or occasionally with Viṣṇu and Indra. The only weapons associated with historical personages are : the bow, the club, the sword and the ploughshare. Of the defensive armour only the *kavaca* occurs in historical setting. Of all these weapons only the bow has the widest range of references to its credit. These facts corroborate the antiquity of the historical personages gleaned from works on political history. The genealogical lists of the Vāyu, as far as our information on weapons goes, do not show a type of tampering common in the Mbh. where we find cultural traits of later times mixed with the facts of antiquity. The Vāyu shows us the kings of yore only in their ancient military equipment and does not generally try to 'revise' the tradition in the light of its own material culture. This becomes more obvious when we take into account the observations already made regarding composition of the army, cavalry and war elephants. This is, of course, *argumentum ex silentio*, still the chronological implications presented by them cannot be easily set aside unless shown otherwise.

65. Das, op. cit. 336.

68. *Ibid.*

66. *Ibid.*

69. *Ibid.*

67. CHAKRAVARTY, 178.

70. *Ibid.* and also JAOS. 13, 305 ff.

## CHAPTER X

### FLORA AND FAUNA

#### I. PLANT-WORLD

**Of Plants in General :** In the ṚV. plants (*oṣadhi*) are personified as divine and a whole and a long hymn is devoted to their praise mainly with reference to their healing powers.<sup>1</sup> The same Veda often refers to Soma as the king of the plant-world.<sup>2</sup> By the time of the Br. Up. (IV. 5. 1) we find people holding a view that essence of water is embodied in the plants. If any other views were held regarding the origin of the plant-world we have no information on them so far.

In the Yāgy also the plant-world is closely associated with Soma who is called the "consecrated lord" of the vegetable kingdom.

**Classification of Plants :** Rudimentary ideas about classification of plants can be found in the ṚV. and the AV.<sup>3</sup> Roughly speaking the vegetable world is divided, in the Vedic literature, between *oṣadhi* or *virudh* (plants) and *vana* or *vrkṣa* (trees).<sup>4</sup> The Manu-smṛti, however, divides the plant-world into four classes<sup>5</sup> which are also found in the works of Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>6</sup> This fourfold classification is :

- (i) *Vanaspati* : Trees not bearing flowers.
- (ii) *Vānaspatya* : Trees bearing flowers and fruits.
- (iii) *Auṣadhis* : Plants. Commentators further subdivide it into two classes, such as (a) annuals or perennials and (b) grass or *tṛṇa*.
- (iv) *Vīrudh* : Creeper. They are further subdivided into (a) *latā* and (b) *vallī* and *gulma*.

The Vāyu classification of plants into *grāmyāranya* (or *grāmya* and *āranya*) and *yajñīya* is not found in any of these works. This classification, however, reminds us of an age when sacrifices were very often performed so that popular nomenclature regarded plants used in sacrifices as forming a separate class altogether. Such a system of classification would obviously be in harmony with the spirit of the Brāhmanas but we have no information so far whether there were any works which adopted such a classification.

The other system of classification is certainly cruder than that of the Manu and Caraka, though it comes closer to them than to the one found in the ṚV. For we find *Vanaspati* and *Vṛkṣa* (i. e. *Vānaspatya*

1. MACDONELL, *Vedic Mythology*, 154.

2. *Ibid.*

3. *Cultural Heritage of India* (Rāmakrishna Centenary Volume), 3, 42.

4. *Ved. Ind.*, 1, 125.

5. *Cultural Heritage of India*, 3, 429.

6. G. F. MUJUMDAR, *Vanaspati*, and cf. also B. N. SEAL, *Positive Sciences of the Ancient Hindus*, 169.

in Caraka)—both the terms of the Vāyu have the same sense as in Caraka—as sub-species of Latā. But in Caraka and Suśruta Latā itself appears as a sub-species of Virudh, Vṛkṣa and Vānaspatya being there regarded as main classes. Again, in the Vāyu we find Vallī as a main class of which Gulmas and various kinds of grasses form the sub-species and Virudh is here regarded as a separate main class. The case is apparently different with Caraka where Virudh alone is the main class, the other being its sub-species. There is another difference to be noted. In the Vāyu Auśadhi signifies the genera of the whole plant-world while in Caraka Auśadhi signifies one of the four main species of the plant-world. It has already been noted that the Manu has the same system of classification as in Caraka and the antiquity of the Vāyu classification has to be estimated accordingly.

About the other modes of classification—medicinal, dietetic, etc.—we hear nothing from the Vāyu. This is another evidence of the comparatively archaic character of the system of classification employed, in our Purāṇa. The plants referred to in the Purāṇa have been given below in alphabetical order :

**Aguru :** Kauṭilya knew it and gives its characteristics.<sup>7</sup> Caraka mentions it<sup>8</sup> and so does Suśruta who alludes to the oil being extracted from it and includes it in *tailavarga*.<sup>9</sup>

**Akṣoṭa :** Caraka mentions it in his *phalavarga* class of plants.<sup>10</sup>

**Āmra :** It is mentioned by Kauṭilya<sup>11</sup> and by Caraka and Suśruta in their system of classification.<sup>12</sup>

**Āśvattha :** It is the most important tree of the RV. and its fruit is described as sweet. Its wood was used for Soma vessels.<sup>13</sup> It is called *vanaspati* in the RV.

The Vāyu connects this tree with the grandeur of royalty, quite in fitting with its sanctity and its association with Soma as in the RV. Our Purāṇa, however, relates its use mostly in connection with the śrāddha.

**Ataś :** Kauṭilya mentions it<sup>14</sup> and according to Caraka it belongs to his 'oil group'.<sup>15</sup> It is called lin-seed and is included in *tailavarga* by Suśruta.<sup>16</sup>

**Badarī :** It is mentioned by Kauṭilya as an acid fruit.<sup>17</sup>

**Campaka :** It is referred to by Suśruta and also in the Bṛhat-Saṁhitā.<sup>18</sup>

7. *Trans.* 90.

8. *Vsp.* 96.

9. *Ibid.* 100, 121.

10. *Ibid.* 112.

11. See *Ind. Verb.*

12. *Vsp.* 92-111.

13. *APTE*, op. cit., 143, and cf. also *MAC. HSL.* 146.

14. P. 202.

15. *Vsp.* 113.

16. *Ibid.* 115-20.

17. *Trans.* 114.

18. *Vsp.* 119, 132.



**Caraka** : Caraka mentions *Caraka*<sup>19</sup> and *Suśruta* takes it amongst pulses.<sup>20</sup>

**Candana** : Kauṭilya,<sup>21</sup> Caraka and *Suśruta* mention it.<sup>22</sup>

**Dāḍima** : Caraka and *Suśruta* mention it.<sup>23</sup> *Varāhamihira* states how it should be planted and associates its growth with *Anūpa* region.<sup>24</sup>

**Darbha** : Kauṭilya mentions it.<sup>25</sup>

**Devadāru** : It is mentioned by Kauṭilya.<sup>26</sup> According to *Suśruta* oil can be extracted from it.<sup>27</sup>

**Drākṣa** : Caraka and *Suśruta* mention it.<sup>28</sup> *Varāhamihira* describes how it should be planted and states that it grows in *Anūpa* region.<sup>29</sup>

**Durodara** : It is mentioned in the *AV*.<sup>30</sup> and in the *Bṛhat-Saṃhitā*.<sup>31</sup>

**Godhūma** : In the *RV*. we find only the *Yava* referred to which in later *Saṃhitas* means barley. We do not know whether cultivation of wheat was known to the *R̥gvedic* Aryans.<sup>32</sup> In the later *Saṃhitas* we find that wheat was cultivated.<sup>33</sup> By the time of Kauṭilya it had become quite familiar.<sup>34</sup> Caraka says that it unites fractures, prolongs life and promotes nutrition.<sup>35</sup> *Suśruta* also describes its nutritive value.<sup>36</sup>

**Gṛājana** : Caraka includes it in his classification under the group of greens (*haritavarga*). He mentions it as *gṛājanaka*.<sup>37</sup>

**Ikṣu** : The *AV*. mentions *ikṣu* (I. 34. 5). Kauṭilya terms it under *kṣāra*.<sup>38</sup> He states that sugar-cane crops are worst (i. e. very difficult to grow as they are subject to various evils and require much care and expenditure).<sup>39</sup> He also refers to sugar.<sup>40</sup> Caraka mentions its medicinal properties<sup>41</sup> and the *Bṛhat-Saṃhitā* also refers to it.<sup>42</sup>

**Jambū** : Kauṭilya mentions *jambūphala*.<sup>43</sup> The *Jaina Sūtras* refer to *jambū* tree as an abode of a deity.<sup>44</sup> Caraka mentions its medicinal property and says that it relieves one of vomiting.<sup>45</sup> The *Bṛhat-Saṃhitā* lays down certain rules regarding its planting.<sup>46</sup> According to him it grows in the *Anūpa* region.<sup>47</sup>

**Kadalī** : Kauṭilya mentions *kadalī*. He says that it is procured from *Aroha* which according to a commentator is a place in the *Himalayas*.<sup>48</sup> He even mentions a process of making metals soft by treating them with the powder of *kadalī*.<sup>49</sup> It is known to *Suśruta* and *Varāhamihira*.<sup>50</sup>

**Kālāmra** : It is alluded to in the *AV*.<sup>51</sup>

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|------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 19. <i>Ibid.</i> 107.        | 20. <i>Ibid.</i> 115.    | 21. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>            |
| 22. <i>Vsp.</i> 97-101, etc. | 23. <i>Ibid.</i> 102-14. | 24. <i>Ibid.</i> 40, 63, 68.     |
| 25. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>        | 26. <i>Ibid.</i>         | 27. <i>Vsp.</i> 121.             |
| 29. <i>Ibid.</i> 40, 63, 68. | 30. <i>Ibid.</i> 163.    | 28. <i>Ibid.</i> 91-116.         |
| 32. <i>CHI</i> , I. 99-100.  | 33. <i>Ibid.</i> 135.    | 31. <i>Ibid.</i> 134.            |
| 36. <i>Ibid.</i> 113.        | 37. <i>Ibid.</i> 113.    | 34. <i>Trans.</i> 144.           |
| 40. <i>Ibid.</i> 113.        | 41. <i>Vsp.</i> 91.      | 35. <i>Vsp.</i> 106.             |
| 44. <i>SBE.</i> 45, 48.      | 45. <i>Vsp.</i> 95.      | 38. <i>Trans.</i> 114.           |
| 48. <i>Trans.</i> 92.        | 49. <i>P.</i> 82.        | 39. <i>Ibid.</i> 145.            |
| 51. <i>Vsp.</i> 174.         |                          | 42. <i>Ibid.</i> 134.            |
|                              |                          | 43. <i>Trans.</i> 95.            |
|                              |                          | 46. <i>Ibid.</i> 38-40.          |
|                              |                          | 47. <i>Ibid.</i> 68.             |
|                              |                          | 50. <i>Vsp.</i> 63, 68, 99, 123. |

**Kapitha** : Kauṭilya shows that oil was extracted from this plant.<sup>52</sup> It is also mentioned by Buddhaghosa in his commentary on the Dīgha Nikāya.<sup>53</sup> Caraka and Suśruta knew it.<sup>54</sup> The Bṛhat-Saṃhitā mentions the mode of its planting.<sup>55</sup>

**Kāśa** : It is suggested that the *darbha* of the hymns of the AV. might be the same as *Kāśa*. It is still used for sacrificial purposes.<sup>56</sup> The Bṛhat-Saṃhitā refers to it.<sup>57</sup>

**Kālmārya** : Caraka mentions its medicinal properties and also its dietetic value.<sup>58</sup> Suśruta does the same.<sup>59</sup>

**Khādīra** : It is mentioned in the AV.<sup>60</sup> Caraka says that these trees grow in the Jāṅgala (forest) region.<sup>61</sup> Suśruta takes these plants as beneficial in the Pāṇḍu disease.<sup>62</sup> According to Varāhamihira its overgrowth indicates impending famine.<sup>63</sup>

**Kharjūra** : The Taittirīya Saṃhitā (II. 4. 9. 2) contains a myth about the origin of this plant. Formerly *yatis* did not offer sacrifice to Indra. Indra was incensed and cut off their heads into pieces and threw them to wild dogs. The hungry dogs tore open the skulls of these *yatis* and as these were scattered about on the ground they took root and grew into *Kharjūras*.<sup>64</sup> Caraka and Suśruta give its medicinal and dietetic properties.<sup>65</sup>

The Vāyu apparently contains a version of the same story as it is found in the Taittirīya Saṃhitā. But we do not know as to why Manu should come into the story of the Vāyu at all. Again the *yatis* here are Varūtrins who were the descendants of Bhṛgu and that they should be opposed to sacrifices to Indra is really interesting to note. Instead of dogs the Vāyu mentions Vṛkas (wolves). The description of the Varūtrins appears to be strange in the true Purāṇic setting. They appear as sacrificers to gods (*Surayājakaḥ*) and in the same breath we are told how they contrived to destroy the institution of sacrifice. Their connection with the origin of the date-palms is pregnant with some ethnological suggestions, probably locating the Bhṛgus in Persia—the home of date-palms—who were opposed to the set of Indo-Aryans migrating into India.

Considering the contents of this story of the Vāyu which offer contradictory details, one is tempted to infer that its material is really very ancient which the final redactors of the Purāṇas retained though they did not seem to have understood it.

**Kimśuka** : Suśruta mentions it.<sup>66</sup>

**Kuraṇḍaka** : Suśruta mentions *Kurantaka*.<sup>67</sup>

52. *Trans.* 116.

55. *Ibid.* 44.

59. *Ibid.* 116-9.

62. *Ibid.* 99.

65. *Vsp.*

53. *Vsp.* 65.

56. *Ibid.* 178.

60. *Ibid.* 168-72.

63. *Ibid.* 133.

66. *Vsp.* 117-9.

54. *Ibid.* 11-7.

57. *Ibid.* 138.

61. *Ibid.* 67.

64. *QJMS.* 21, 177.

67. *Ibid.* 119.

58. *Ibid.* 111.

**Kuśa**: In the Jātakas we find people accustomed to the art of ascertaining the presence of water through its vegetable accessories amongst which Kuśa is mentioned as one.<sup>68</sup> It might be the same as *darbha* of the Vedas.<sup>69</sup> Kauṭilya mentions the oil extracted from its fruit and states that its oil, if it is poured over the fire, burns even in the storm.<sup>70</sup>

**Lakuca**: Caraka and Suśruta mention it.<sup>71</sup> Varāhamihira says that it should be planted by means of cuttings<sup>72</sup> and that they grow it in Anūpa region.<sup>73</sup>

**Laṣuna**: It is mentioned by Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>74</sup>

**Māṣa**: Kauṭilya mentions the proper time for its cultivation.<sup>75</sup> It is referred to by Caraka, Suśruta and Varāhamihira.<sup>76</sup>

**Maśūra**: Kauṭilya refers to the proper season of its cultivation.<sup>77</sup> It is known to Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>78</sup>

**Mudga**: Kauṭilya mentions the proper season of its cultivation.<sup>79</sup> It is also mentioned by Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>80</sup>

**Mātulūṅga**: According to Kauṭilya it bears acid fruits.<sup>81</sup> Caraka states its medical properties namely that it promotes cheerfulness and relieves one of vomiting effect.<sup>82</sup>

**Nāga**: It is mentioned in the book of "Milindā".<sup>83</sup>

**Naktamāla**: Kauṭilya mentions the sticks of *naktamāla* used for caning offenders.<sup>84</sup> Caraka says that it cures *Pruritus*<sup>85</sup> and according to Varāhamihira it grows in Anūpa region.<sup>86</sup>

**Nīpa**: Mentioned by Caraka and Suśruta. Varāhamihira<sup>87</sup> says that it grows in Anūpa region.<sup>88</sup>

**Nyagrodha**: The RV. does not mention it but it is referred to in the AV. though only twice.<sup>89</sup> The Ś. Br. mentions its sweet drink.<sup>90</sup> In the Ups. we find seeds of this tree mentioned in similes.<sup>91</sup> But there it does not seem to indicate the symbolism of strength. Kauṭilya does not mention it and Caraka and Suśruta allude to its various properties.<sup>92</sup>

In the Vāyu we find it regarded sacred, symbolising strength and is mentioned accordingly in similes thus pointing to the post-Vedic character of the references.

**Padma** (*Ambuja, Kamala, Kumuda, Utpala*, etc.): The lotus had not become an object of similes or metaphor in the RV.<sup>93</sup> but by

- |                                |                             |                            |                                    |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 68. <i>Ibid.</i> 138-9.        | 69. <i>Ibid.</i> 178.       | 70. <i>Trans.</i> 502-4.   | 71. <i>V.sp.</i> 111-6.            |
| 72. <i>Ibid.</i> 63.           | 73. <i>Ibid.</i> 68.        | 74. <i>Ibid.</i> 113-8.    | 75. <i>Ibid.</i> 202.              |
| 76. <i>Ibid.</i> 44-8, 107-16. | 77. <i>Ibid.</i> 202.       | 78. <i>Ibid.</i> 107-15.   | 79. <i>Ibid.</i> 302.              |
| 80. <i>Ibid.</i> 107-15.       | 81. <i>Trans.</i> 114.      | 82. <i>V.sp.</i> 92-4.     | 83. <i>SBE.</i> 36. 130.           |
| 84. <i>Trans.</i> 278.         | 85. <i>V.sp.</i> 92.        | 86. <i>Ibid.</i> 68.       | 87. <i>Ibid.</i> 93, 112, 16, 138. |
| 88. <i>Ibid.</i> 138.          | 89. <i>MAC. HSL.</i> 146-7. | 90. <i>SBE.</i> 44. 317.   |                                    |
| 91. <i>Ibid.</i> 1. 104.       | 92. <i>V.sp.</i> 102, 112.  | 93. <i>APTS</i> , op. cit. |                                    |

the time of the Ś. Br. we find it achieving a symbolic character ; for we find there<sup>94</sup> the lotus-leaf as a symbol of the womb of speech and water. It is even called immortal light.<sup>95</sup> The symbolism of the lotus is closely woven into the theories of cosmology in the Ups. where the concept of the lotus-birth of the manifested creative deity often occurs.<sup>96</sup> The idea of the lotus symbolising the earth is found in the Taittirīya Saṁhitā and the Ś. Br.<sup>97</sup> But the conception of Brahmā, the Creator, himself born of a lotus which arose out of the navel of Nārāyaṇa, is not found in the Vedic texts ; and corresponding representations in art do not appear before the fifth or sixth centuries A.D.<sup>98</sup> The idea is no doubt found in the Vāyu but not in its cosmological chapters.

Śrī in the RV. is an attribute of Agni and in the Brāhmaṇas and the Ups. we find Śrī-Lakṣmī often as an angel. There is, however, a Śrīsūkta, said to be of the period of Br. Up.<sup>99</sup> which corresponds in all respects with the iconographic formula of the early Indian art. Here we find her closely associated with the lotus symbol. The early Buddhist sculptures of about the 2nd century B.C. already show her connection with lotus.<sup>100</sup>

*Palāśa* : It is mentioned in the RV.<sup>101</sup> The Ś. Br. refers to *palāśa* and compares it with Brahman and Soma.<sup>102</sup> It was often used in the ritual.<sup>103</sup> The Ait. and Ś. Br. contain myths about its origin.<sup>104</sup> In later works we naturally find it mentioned.<sup>105</sup>

*Panasa* : Kauṭilya, Caraka, Suśruta and Varāhamihira<sup>106</sup> mention it, the last one saying that it grows in Anūpa region.<sup>107</sup>

*Pārijāta* : Kauṭilya mentions its pleasant colour in his description of Saugandhika gem.<sup>108</sup>

*Parūṣaka* : Kauṭilya, Caraka, Suśruta and Varāhamihira<sup>109</sup> mention it.

*Pāṭalā* : Pāṭalā is mentioned by Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>110</sup> Varāhamihira also mentions it as a commodity.<sup>111</sup>

*Paṭolā* : It is mentioned by Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>112</sup>

*Plakṣa* : The AV. refers to it.<sup>113</sup> Kauṭilya mentions the seed of *plakṣa*.<sup>114</sup> It is mentioned in the Gītā as the first of immovable entities.<sup>115</sup>

*Priyaṅgu* : Kauṭilya,<sup>116</sup> Caraka and Suśruta mention it.<sup>117</sup>

94. SBE. 41. 215 ff.

95. Ibid. 43. 365 ff.

96. A. K. COOMARSWAMY, *Elements of Buddhist Iconography*, 18 ff.

97. Ibid. 18. 98. Ibid. 99. Ibid. 100. Ibid. 22. 101. Vsp. 155.

102. SBE. 12. 90 ; 41. 53 ; 44. 221. 103. Ibid. 41. 298 ; 44. 373-5.

104. QYMS. 22. 214 ff. 105. Ind. Verb. 106. Vsp. 68, 106-12.

107. Ibid. 68. 108. Trans. 88. 109. Vsp. 102-37. 110. Ibid. 96, 120.

111. Ibid. 132. 112. Ibid. 92, 120. 113. Ibid. 168. 114. Trans. 348.

115. SBE. 8. 354. 116. Ind. Verb. 117. Vsp. 91-100.

**Śaka :** Kauṭilya mentions it many times<sup>118</sup> and Varāhamihira also refers to it.<sup>119</sup>

**Śālmala :** It is mentioned in the RV.<sup>120</sup> According to Kauṭilya *śālmali* trees are good for denoting boundaries of villages.<sup>121</sup>

**Sarala :** It is mentioned by Kauṭilya<sup>122</sup> and Suśruta.<sup>123</sup>

**Śleṣmātaka :** It is mentioned by Kauṭilya,<sup>124</sup> and by Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>125</sup>

**Udāra :** Udāra is mentioned by Kauṭilya as food.<sup>126</sup>

**Udumbara :** It is very frequently mentioned in the Brāhmaṇas.<sup>127</sup> A throne-seat made of Udumbara was used in the coronation ritual.<sup>128</sup> It was also considerably used in other sacrifices. Kauṭilya mentions it twice.<sup>129</sup>

**Uśtra :** Kauṭilya mentions its plantation.<sup>130</sup> Suśruta and Varāhamihira also refer to it.<sup>131</sup>

**Tāla :** Kauṭilya,<sup>132</sup> Caraka and Suśruta mention it.<sup>133</sup>

**Tamāla :** Caraka mentions it.<sup>134</sup>

**Tīla :** Kauṭilya,<sup>135</sup> Caraka, Suśruta and Varāhamihira mention it.<sup>136</sup>

**Vaṭa :** Kauṭilya mentions it.<sup>137</sup>

**Veṇu :** It is often mentioned by Kauṭilya.<sup>138</sup> Suśruta also refers to it.<sup>139</sup>

**Vibhītaka :** It is mentioned by Caraka, Suśruta and Varāhamihira.<sup>140</sup>

**Vrīhi :** It is known to Kauṭilya,<sup>141</sup> Caraka and Suśruta.<sup>142</sup>

**Yava :** The exact significance of Yava in the RV is uncertain<sup>143</sup> but in later Saṁhitās it indicates 'barley'.<sup>144</sup> Kauṭilya mentions it many times.<sup>145</sup>

It would have been noted so far that most of these plants mentioned by the Vāyu are found in the Arthaśāstra and the standard works of Caraka and Suśruta. These latter, however, mention other numerous plant-names which are not found in the Vāyu. It is difficult to make any chronological findings from this but certain indications have been already noted above. The names of *dvīpas* after plant-names deserve some treatment here. They are Kuśadvīpa, Śākadvīpa, Śālmalidvīpa, Plakṣadvīpa, Jambudvīpa, Puṣkaradvīpa. It has been suggested that

|                                       |  |                           |                         |
|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| 118. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>                | 119. <i>Vsp.</i> 138.                          | 120. <i>Ibid.</i> 155.    | 121. <i>Trans.</i> 51.  |
| 122. <i>Ibid.</i> 121.                | 123. <i>Vsp.</i> 121.                          | 124. <i>Trans.</i> 512.   | 125. <i>Vsp.</i> 112-9. |
| 126. <i>Trans.</i> 115.               | 127. <i>SBE.</i> 41. 35 ff.; 43. 189; 203 etc. |                           |                         |
| 128. <i>Ibid.</i> 41. 35 ff., 73, 83. | 129. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>                         | 130. P. 117.              |                         |
| 131. <i>Vsp.</i> 100-2, 138.          | 132. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>                         | 133. <i>Vsp.</i> 116-20.  | 134. <i>Vsp.</i> 68.    |
| 135. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>                | 136. <i>Vsp.</i> 68, 108, 115, 132.            | 137. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>    |                         |
| 138. <i>Ibid.</i>                     | 139. <i>Vsp.</i> 115-9.                        | 140. <i>Ibid.</i> 96-120. | 141. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>  |
| 142. <i>Vsp.</i> 106-26.              | 143. <i>CHI.</i> 1, 100.                       | 144. <i>Ibid.</i>         | 145. <i>Ind. Verb.</i>  |

these names might be indicative of regions where these trees predominated.<sup>146</sup> The Purāṇa explicitly mentions their derivation from a big tree of that name in the particular dvīpa. All these trees have no history so old as the RV. Only the *Śālmali* was known to the R̥gvedic Aryans. The *Aśvattha*, the most important of the RV. plants, has no dvīpa after it. Again *Udumbara* is very frequent in the ritual of the Brāhmaṇas and still it has no dvīpa to its credit. The *Nyagrodha* comes to be used in later Vedic literature and it too has no dvīpa. The same can be said of the *Palāśa*. Of these dvīpas only the Jambudvīpa is mentioned by the Jātakas<sup>147</sup> which, though they mention *plakṣa*, do not refer to *Plakṣadvīpa*. We have seen above that the names after whom dvīpas were so called were all of them known to Kauṭilya and to later writers. Kauṭilya, however, does not mention the dvīpas of those names. It would thus lead us to infer that the practice of naming dvīpas after particular names of trees has come into vogue in the period of the Jātakas and the idea might have been developed further in later times.

None of these plants are associated with the genealogical lists except the R̥gvedic *aśvattha* tree. This reflects something on the antiquity of that portion of the Purāṇa.

## II. ANIMAL-WORLD

Of the Animal-World in General: The twofold classification of animals (viz., domestic and wild) is found in the Ś. Br. which mentions seven domestic and seven wild animals.<sup>148</sup> The number seven should be noted. This classification was based on practical experience and had no scientific precision. The fourfold classification into *aṇḍaja*, *udbhijja*, *svedaja* and *jarāyuja* may be traced to the period of the Chh. Up. which mentions the terms *aṇḍaja*, *jīvaja* and *udbhijja*.<sup>149</sup> The Jain Sūtras also mention this fourfold classification<sup>150</sup> and the same is found in the Gītā,<sup>151</sup> the Manu-smṛti<sup>152</sup> and in the 'Questions of Milindā'.<sup>153</sup> Thus before the rise of the Christian era this method of classification of animals had become a matter of common knowledge and later on we find Caraka and Suśruta very much familiar with it.<sup>154</sup> Suśruta, however, is more elaborate in his system of classification and mentions *vyāla*, *paśu*, *kṛmi*, *hīṣa*, *pipīlaka*, *sarīṣpa*, etc.<sup>155</sup>

There is also another classification which divides the animal-world into two broad categories, viz., (i) *yonija* (sexually generated), (ii) *a-yonija* (not sexually generated). The *jarāyuja* and *aṇḍaja*, according to this classification, come under *yonija*. This is the system of classification adopted by Patañjali and he gives several alternative

146. Vsp. 70. 147. MEHTA. 148. SBE, 26. 213 ; 41. 40 fn. ; 43. 211, 277.

149. SEAL, 181. 150. SBE, 22, 11. 151. Ibid. 8. 339. 152. Ibid. 25. 15 ff.

153. Ibid. 36. 101. 154. SEAL, 181. 155. Ibid. 178-80.

definitions of the animals of the *a-yonija* class. He calls them *ṛudra-jantavaḥ* (small animals).<sup>156</sup>

It is interesting to note here that the Vāyu agrees closely with the classification of the Ś. Br. which is not observed by later writers. The mention of seven domestic animals in Ś. Br. confirms the above finding. Unfortunately, the Ś. Br. does not mention their names while the Vāyu does. The antiquity of this Vāyu material can be further judged from the fact that the elephant is included in wild animals by the Vāyu.

The fourfold classification of the Vāyu can be reasonably assigned to a period later than that of the Chh. Up. and earlier than that of Suśruta; for we have found Suśruta more elaborate and systematic than the Vāyu in this connection. The Vāyu gives (without order) a list of *śvedaja* creatures while Suśruta's knowledge of the subject decidedly appears to be more advanced. He mentions 18 classes of *kīṭas*, and 3 varieties of scorpions and he describes *pīṭilakas*, *makṣikas*, *maśakas*, etc., in a more systematic manner.<sup>157</sup>

The last mode of classification of which Patañjali had some knowledge, also has no corroboration in the Vāyu. The Purāṇa, no doubt, uses the words *yonija* and *a-yonija* but in a quite different context, viz., in regard to the origin of sages. Even if this is regarded as being a fore-knowledge of such classification still it can be maintained that the Vāyu material is more archaic in character.

For want of detailed information on various animals, referred to in the First Part from other sources, we have dealt here only with the most important of them about whom we get at least some information from elsewhere.

**Aśva:** The horse figures considerably in the Vedic ritual. The *aśvamedha* sacrifice is well-known. The story of its domestication goes over to the Indo-European age<sup>158</sup> and the Vedic Aryans had their chariots drawn by horses though riding does not appear to have been known.<sup>159</sup> The Ś. Br. says that a horse draws nothing else than a chariot.<sup>160</sup> We have seen above how cavalry came to be employed in ancient India.

The conclusions arrived at in our discussion of the cavalry can be confirmed here and nothing more need be added.

**Cow:** The belief in the sanctity of the cow seems to have been inherited by the Indo-Aryans from prehistoric times before they had separated from the Iranians.<sup>161</sup> The cow is sacred to the R̥gvedic

156. *Ibid.* 177-8.

157. *Suśruta Kalpanthāna*, Chapter VIII (Calcutta ed. 2. 287-301).

158. SCHRADER, *op. cit.*, 261 ff.; CHILDE, *op. cit.*

159. MAC., *HSL.* 150.

160. *SBE.* 44. 317.

161. *ERE.* 4. 224.

Aryans for we find cow addressed as Aditi. The earth itself is often spoken of as the cow.<sup>162</sup> In the AV. we find the earth conceived under the figure of a cow and a clear reference to the story of her being 'milched' by divine beings and men.<sup>163</sup> The history of this belief continues to our own times. In the Ups. we find speech meditated upon as cow.<sup>164</sup>

The practice of making gifts of cows to priests as fees for their services in rituals was very common in Vedic times. This might be due to the fact that the cow often served as a standard of value right from the times of the RV.<sup>165</sup>

"Though the cow-killer is in the White Yajurveda already said to be punishable with death, the RV. does not express an absolute prohibition, for the wedding hymn shows that even the cow was slaughtered on solemn occasions while bulls are several times described as having been sacrificed to Indra in large numbers."<sup>166</sup> The Ś. Br. prohibits eating of cow-flesh but still we find there Yājñavalkya saying, "I, for one, eat it, provided it is tender". The Grhya Sūtras permit the slaughter of cow on the arrival of a guest especially at a wedding or a sacrifice.<sup>167</sup> Not only the cow but its five products (*pañcagavya*) also appear to be sacred in the Mbh. as purifying agents<sup>168</sup> and similar is the case with the Dharma-śāstra works.<sup>169</sup> The Vedas appear to be silent on this aspect of her sanctity.

The Vāyu too shows the sanctity of the cow but regarding the *pañcagavya* it is silent. Regarding the relation of cow to speech it appears we can point to the story of Gāyatrī in the Vāyu as its equivalent. The Vāyu also shows us that cow served as a means of exchange and except *niṣkas*, *suvarṇas*, etc., we have no other evidence for use of coinage as currency. We have in the Vāyu an instance of how the cow served as a means of exchange, e.g. Viśvāmitra's wife sold her middle son for 100 cows. This culture-complex which is found in the genealogical lists must then be considered as antic, thus indicating the authenticity of the contents of the lists.

*Elephants*: The R̥gvedic sages seem to have regarded it a strange creature and it is mentioned only in two passages of the RV. It appears, however, that by the end of the R̥gvedic period attempts were made to catch the animal. In the YV. and the AV. the elephant is quite familiar<sup>170</sup> though its domestication must have taken some time.

162. MAC., HSL. 110. 163. ERE. 4. 225. 164. SBE. 15. 193.

165. CHI. 1. 97; MAC., HSL. 167; cf. also SBE. 41. 46-51; SBE. 44. 46, 113, 115, 503 etc.

166. MAC., HSL. 149. 167. ERE. 4. 225. 168. Ibid. 4. 225.

169. SBE. 2. 276 fn.; 7. 89; 14. 168-72; 25. 187-90 etc. 170. MAC., HSL. 148.



The elephant figures considerably in the Jātakas.<sup>171</sup> By 300 B.C. it was quite familiar as a domesticated animal.<sup>172</sup>

It should be noted that the Ś. Br. enjoins that elephants should not be accepted as gifts<sup>173</sup> and elephants do not at all figure in the ritual as do the cows, goats and horses.

The Vāyu evidence indicates two different chronological stages in its contents about this animal. In the first, the elephant was purely a wild animal and was not domesticated. In the second, it shows elephants as objects of gifts to Brahmins in śrāddha and mentions it as a yajñīya animal. It refers to elephant-stables and to their use in war at the end of the Kali age. Accordingly this material of the text belongs to a later chronological stratum (i.e. from about the time of Buddha) though we are unable to fix the lower limit of time. The geographical implications of this evidence is obvious from the fact that elephants abound in the north-east end of India and at the foot of the Himalayas. It is regarded as one of the 'jewels' of the paramount sovereign. The redactors of the Purāṇa were very familiar with the animal as they mention the use of Añkuśa for controlling it.

**Lion :** The lion was very familiar to the R̥gvedic Aryans and they often allude to his roaring and they were even aware of catching lions in snares.<sup>174</sup> The lion typifying vigour is mentioned in the Ś. Br.<sup>175</sup> In the days of Kauṭilya we find that a Superintendent of Forest had to look after certain forest products which included lion-skin.<sup>176</sup>

The information of the Vāyu is of a very general nature and does not make us infer anything about its chronology. The statement that lions are made to serve when domesticated and the reference to caging of lions appear to show some advance after the Vedic period. It is difficult to say whether the yoking of lions to Skanda's chariots had any semblance of reality.

**Tiger :** It is unknown to the RV. but in the other Vedas it often figures as a beast of prey and the AV. describes the animal as man-eater (*puruṣāda*).<sup>177</sup> In the Ś. Br. we find the tiger as typifying vigour.<sup>178</sup> Kauṭilya mentions its skin as a forest product.

As compared with the lion the tiger figures less in the Vāyu. It does not appear as a vehicle of Durgā as in later mythology ; but a stage for this seems to have been prepared in the Vāyu statement that recitation of the Devī's name protects one from a tiger.

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171. MENTA, FICK. 172. MAC., HSL. 148. 173. SBE. 26. 13.  
 174. CHI. 1. 100; MAC., HSL. 147. 175. SBE. 43. 38. 176. Trans. 123.  
 177. MAC., HSL 147-8. 178. SBE. 43. 38. 179. Trans. 123.

# APPENDICES

## APPENDIX A

### I

#### IDENTIFICATION OF PLACE-NAMES AND TRIBES

There exists considerable literature on the geography of ancient India<sup>1</sup> which occasionally takes notice of the material of the Purāṇas. There are, again, different views regarding the accuracy of the geographical information contained in the Purāṇas.<sup>2</sup> There are some who attempt to identify the *dvīpas* or island-continents of the Purāṇas and others who regard them merely as the product of geographical fancy.<sup>3</sup> About the exact geographical definition of the *Jambudvīpa* also there are different views and scholars are further divided on the point whether the nine divisions of Bhāratavarṣa of the Purāṇas means our modern India or only its ninth division is what we call India today. By entering into the arena of these controversies we would be involving ourselves into a separate investigation altogether. We have, therefore, avoided any discussion on the point. Again the names of tribes and places in the Appendix A are too numerous to discuss the identification of all of them in this work, which is not a treatise mainly on geography. It is clear that such a discussion should form an independent enquiry altogether and we hope to undertake it in future. The identifications of some names, however, are attempted here only to show how far the Vāyu information admits of verification, in the light of a similar information from the other sources.

**Ābhīras :** We learn from the Greek sources that the Ābhīras "were on the Indus, north of the Sauvīras, where they gave their name to the Greek Satrapy of Abiria".<sup>4</sup> Patañjali locates them in Sindhu-deśa with their settlements near the Sarasvati,<sup>5</sup> and connects them with Śūdras.<sup>6</sup> According to the information of the Mbh. we learn more of their movements from the region about the Punjab and Mathura to the region now known as the Konkan<sup>7</sup> and here too they are at places associated with the Śūdras.<sup>8</sup> The Mbh., however, shows them in another light, that is, as a nomadic tribe of cowherds "amongst whom the boy-god Kṛṣṇa lived."<sup>9</sup> In the Nasik cave inscription we find mention of an Ābhīra king Iśvarasena who flourished about the end of the

1. CUNNINGHAM, *Ancient Geography of India*, xvii. ff.; cf. also RAYCHAUDHARI, *Studies in Indian Antiquities*, 46.

2. See *JRAS.* 1894, 231. 3. See *Ibid.* and cf. also RAYCHAUDHARI, op. cit., 62 ff.

4. TARN, *Greeks in Bactria and India*, 172. 5. *Ibid.* 235; *PHAI.* 204.

6. *PHAI.* 418. 7. BHANDARKAR, 37. 8. *PHAI.* 418. 9. BHANDARKAR, 37;

2nd cent. A.D.<sup>10</sup> This is probably the earliest reference to their southward march. Their location in the region about the Aparānta (Konkan) and Surāṣṭra is also attested by the Viṣṇu Purāṇa and by Varāhamihira,<sup>11</sup> and the latter also refers to them as a southern people.<sup>12</sup> They are again connected with the Paṇḍu migration to the south.<sup>13</sup> Even today the Ahirs (probably the same as the Ābhīras) are found in the Punjab,<sup>14</sup> Kathiawad<sup>15</sup> and parts of the Nasik and the Khandesh districts.<sup>16</sup>

The Vāyu places them both in the north and in the Dakṣiṇāpatha but not in the extreme south.

*Acchoda*: The Acchoda lake is mentioned by Bāṇa in his 'Kādambarī' and it is located, on the ground of this reference, in Kashmir.<sup>17</sup>

The Vāyu calls it, at one place, a heavenly lake and at another locates it on the Kailāsa. It is difficult to say whether the above Acchoda is the same as our lake Acchoda.

*Āhukas*: The Āhuka tribe is mentioned in the Mbh. and Rukmī is mentioned as being their leader or chief.<sup>18</sup>

The Vāyu calls them a northern '*deśa*'. The other reading '*Bāhuka*' appears to be dubious for we have no information of a tribe of this name from any source so far.

*Alakā*: Alakā as a city of Kubera figures very often in the 'Meghadūta' of Kālidāsa who also gives its picturesque description.

The Vāyu also associated it with Kubera but at one place we find a mention of king Purūravas having resided there, thus suggesting its location somewhere near Pratiṣṭhāna in the Himālaya.

*Ālakanandā*: It is mentioned as a tributary of the Ganges<sup>19</sup> and the Vāyu appears to support the inference.

*Ālimadras*: The Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa has 'Animadras' in the same connection as in the Vāyu.<sup>20</sup> No information is available from any other source so as to locate the region where they flourished.<sup>21</sup>

*Āmāladās* (or *Māladās*): The Mārkaṇḍeya has Mānadas instead.<sup>22</sup> The Mbh. mentions Maladas as a people of the east who were vanquished by Bhīmasena in his *digvijaya* (conquest of quarters).<sup>23</sup> This may probably refer to their location in the region now known as the Maldah District of Bengal.<sup>24</sup>

10. OHA1. 418.

11. BHANDARKAR, J.

12. LA. 22, 272.

13. K. PILLAI, *Tamils 1800 Years Ago*, 57.

14. CROOKE, *Castes and Tribes of North-west Province and Aundh*.

15. ENTHOVEN, *Castes and Tribes of the Bombay Presidency*.

16. *Ibid.*

17. DEY, 1.

18. SØRENSEN, 25.

19. DEY, 3.

20. ABORI. 17, 238.

21. *Ibid.*; B. C. LAW has wrongly taken the Vāyu readings as *Cānimadras* or *Cālimadras*.

22. *Ibid.*

23. SØRENSEN.

24. LAW here refers to a "shrewd guess" of PARCITER who locates them in the Cf. ABORI. 17.

It would thus be seen that the Vāyu reference to these people as an eastern janapada or deśa testified by the above evidence and the readings of the Ānandāśrama edition, which do not include the name Māladās, may be modified to this extent.

✓ *Ambaṣṭhā* : The Ait. Br. mentions an Ambaṣṭha king.<sup>25</sup> The Greek historians of Alexander mention Abastanoi as an Indian people who had come into conflict with Alexander. They had settled on the lower Chinab.<sup>26</sup> They are identified with the Ambaṣṭhas of Sanskrit and Pāli works.<sup>27</sup> The Mbh. refers to the Ambaṣṭhas with Śivis, Kaudrakas and Mālavas and other north-western tribes.<sup>28</sup> The Bārhaspatya Arthashastra mentions an Ambaṣṭha country in connection with Sind. Patañjali mentions Ambaṣṭha as a name of a country or state and its inhabitants he calls as Āmbaṣṭheyas.<sup>29</sup> According to the Smṛti writers Ambaṣṭha denotes a man of mixed Brahmin and Vaiśya parentage.<sup>30</sup> Varāhamihira locates them in the east and south-west.<sup>31</sup>

The Vāyu seems to refer to Ambaṣṭhā as a name of a city and not of a people or tribe. But from the evidence of Purāṇic tradition in general, as collated by PARGITER, we can take it to mean a people of that name rather than a city Ambaṣṭhā. It has been surmised that the Purāṇic references to these people are to be considered earlier than those of the Greek writers;<sup>32</sup> and the fact that the Vāyu does not speak of them so contemptuously as the Smṛtis do and as the Purāṇa itself does in the case of other peoples, may be said to support the inference. It should be noted that the Vāyu also associates them with Śivis and the Yaudheyas as in the Mbh.

*Amarakaṇṭaka* : In his "Megha-dūta" Kālidāsa mentions the mountain named Amarakūta. In the Skanda Purāṇa we have its sanctity described and there it is mentioned as holy, it being the source of the river Narmadā.<sup>33</sup> Its sanctity, especially for the purposes of śrāddha, is mentioned in the Viṣṇu-saṁhitā.<sup>34</sup>

The Vāyu also probably means the same mountain by its reference to Amarakāṇṭaka, which it mentions as holy for śrāddha purposes (cf. also Kāliṅga).

✓ *Ānartta* : In the Mbh. we find the country of Ānartta mentioned in connection with Kṛṣṇa who himself refers to his absence from that country but for which absence he would have prevented the fatal gambling scene of the epic.<sup>35</sup> In the Sabhāparvan, the people, Ānarttas, are mentioned as having been conquered by Arjuna.<sup>36</sup> The territory of Ānartta, as being ruled by Rudradāman, is alluded to in the Junāgadh

25. Cf. PHAI. 206.

26. PHAI. 206 ff.

27. Ibid.

28. SÖRENSEN,

29. PHAI. 206 ff.

30. Cf. LAW, *Ancient Indian Tribes*, 2, 34 ff. for details cf. also PHAI. 207.

31. IA. 22. 272-3.

32. JAYASWAL, 1. 74.

33. Dh. 4.

34. Ibid.

35. III. 14. 14 (Critical Edition).

36. SÖRENSEN.

Rock Inscription of the year 72.<sup>37</sup> It is suggested that this Ānartta might signify the territory around Dvārakā.<sup>38</sup> But the exact definition and boundaries of Ānartta have always been vague both in the literary and epigraphic references to that name.<sup>39</sup> In the Mbh., again, we find Kuśasthali as being another name for Dvārakā,<sup>40</sup> which was situated in Ānartta.

The evidence of the Mbh. and the inscription of Rudradāman suggest that Ānartta may mean the region about Dvārakā for here we find Kuśasthali as the capital of Ānartta. One of the Vāyu references to that name (No. 38) would probably take it to be the same region. But the other reference (No. 39) suggests (—Surāṣṭra, Kacciya and Arbuda are also mentioned in its context)—that it means a different region, probably the same as the Northern Gujarat of to-day.<sup>41</sup> It should be noted that the name Lāta is not mentioned in the Vāyu. This may make us infer that Ānartta included Southern Gujarat also.

*Āndhras*: The Āndhras as a people are mentioned in the Brāhmaṇas. The Ait. Br. speaks of them as the exiled sons of Viśvāmitra, that is, as non-Aryans.<sup>42</sup> In the Jātakas a city named Andhapura and the Āndhra country are referred to<sup>43</sup> and in the inscriptions of Aśoka,<sup>44</sup> they are mentioned as inhabiting the borderland of his empire. Megasthenes calls the Āndhras as a separate race altogether and according to the Manusmṛti,<sup>45</sup> they were a barbarian people. In the Mbh. they are often found mentioned with Śabarās, Pulindas, etc.<sup>46</sup> In all these references to them there is no direct indication of an express mention of a country known particularly after their name.

The Vāyu mentions the Āndhras as inhabiting the Dakṣiṇāpatha and its reference to them as people who are a taboo in śrāddha suggests that according to it also they were a non-Aryan people.

*Āndhrakas*: They are probably the same as the Āndhras mentioned above. The Mbh. refers to them with Śakas, Yavanas, Daradas, Mlecchas, etc.<sup>47</sup> The Vāyu also mentions them in the same manner. The absence of the name "Āndhras" in the list of tribes wherein Āndhrakas are mentioned lends support to the above inference that both these names signify the same tribe.

*Āndhravākas*: The Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa reads Āndhrārakas in the same connection as in the Vāyu.<sup>48</sup> There is no other information about

37. Cf. PHAI. 424.

38. Ibid.

39. Cf. ALTEKAR, *Ancient Towns and Cities in Gujarat and Kathiawar*, 4; and also SANKALIA, *Archaeology of Gujarat*, 4-5.

40. SÖRENSEN, 433.

41. Cf. *Bombay Gazetteer*, 1. 6; cf. also fn. 5 above.

42. GOPALACHARI, *Early History of the Andhra Country*, 1.

43. MENTA, 370.

44. *Corpus Inscriptionum Indicarum*, 1.

45. See SALETOR, *Wild Tribes in Indian History*, 9.

46. Cf. ABORI, 17. 324.

47. SALETOR, *op. cit.*, 32.

48. GOPALACHARI, *op. cit.*, 1.

them for the present so as to fix their location. It should be noted that our Purāṇa places them in the east and thus they may not be the same as the Āndhras noted above.

**Āṅga :** The AV. mentions a people of this name with the Mūjāvats, Magadhas, etc.<sup>49</sup> In the Jātakas the Āṅgas and Magadhas are often associated together<sup>50</sup> and their janapada is mentioned first amongst the sixteen great janapadas known to these works.<sup>51</sup> It appears that the Āṅga dominions at one time included Magadha also<sup>52</sup> and that the important city in this territory was Campā which is famous in the Jātakas.<sup>53</sup> The Rāmāyaṇa gives a story about the origin of the name 'Āṅga' from Madana,<sup>54</sup> which is apparently an attempt at etymology probably confusing the name Āṅga with *anaṅga* (i.e. Madana). The Mbh. and the other Purāṇas (Vāyu included), however, derive the name from Āṅga, son of king Bali. There appears to have been some truth in this tradition.<sup>55</sup>

The Vāyu mentions the same Āṅga as that of the Mbh. and mentions the city of Campāvātī in connection with the region.

**Āṅgadyā :** The mention of Kārāpatha occurs in the Raghuvamśa<sup>56</sup> in connection with the two sons of Lakṣmana who were placed there by the order of Rāma. There is, however, no reference to its capital cities. The Rāmāyaṇa calls it Kārūpatha.<sup>57</sup> It is identified with Kārābāgh or Kālābāgh on the banks of the Indus at the foot of the salt range in the Bannu District. Most of the Purāṇas read it as the Kārāpatha-deśa<sup>58</sup> and not Kārāpatha as in the Raghuvamśa. The identification proposed above appears improbable from the evidence of the Purāṇas including the Vāyu which locates it near the Himavat mountain; and in the region with which Kārāpatha is identified we find the sons of Bharata ruling. It is, however, not possible at this state of our knowledge to suggest anything about the location of the city called Āṅgadyā.

**Āñjana :** The Jātakas mention the Āñjana mountain as situated in the Great forest.<sup>59</sup> It is identified with the Suleiman Range in the Punjab on the strength of the evidence of the Rāmāyaṇa and the Mārkaṇḍeya and the Vārāha Purāṇas.<sup>60</sup> The Jātakas also mention Āñjana forest near Sāketa which is identified with the Kālākāvana of the Dharma-sūtras and the Kālākāśrama of the Buddhists.<sup>61</sup>

The evidence of the Vāyu does not throw any light on this information.

49. *JASB.* 1918, 317.

51. *DAVIDS.* 23.

54. 'Cf. *JASB.* 1918, 317.

57. *Dz.* 92.

60. *Ibid.*, cf. *Dz.* 8.

50. *Ibid.* 320 fn. 7; cf. also *DAVIDS.* 23.

52. *PHAI.* 91.

55. Cf. *PHAI.* 93.

58. *AIHT.* 279 fn. 1.

61. *IBQ.* 4. 93-4.

53. *Ibid.*, cf. also *MENTA.*

56. *XV.* 90.

59. *MENTA.* 369.

*Anūpas*: The Jātakas mention a town named Anūpiya which was probably situated in the Madhy-deśa (Middle country)<sup>62</sup> but here it is not clear whether it has anything to do with the Anūpa country. In the Mbh. we find kings Kārtavīrya Arjuna and Nala associated with the Anūpa country and references to it in the Harivamśa suggest its proximity with Surāṣṭra and Ānartta.<sup>63</sup> The country of Anūpa is mentioned in the Nasik inscription of Gautamīputra Balaśrī with Aparānta, Vidarbha and Avanti and it is suggested that there it signifies the district around Māhiṣmatī on the river Narmadā.<sup>64</sup> The same location is probably indicated also by the Junāgadh Rock Inscription of Rudradāman.<sup>65</sup> The Mārkaṇḍeya and the Matsya Purāṇas have Annaḥas and Arūpas instead of Anūpas of the Vāyu, in the same connection and these readings have been considered to be erroneous.<sup>66</sup>

The Vāyu mentions a janapada of Anūpas as situated on the Vindhya plateau (Vindhya-prṣṭha) and associates this name with the *Vitihotras* and *Tuṇḍikeras* who are elsewhere mentioned in the Purāṇa<sup>67</sup> as the branches of the Haihayas, thus suggesting the proximity of the region over which Kārtavīrya Arjuna probably ruled. At another place the Vāyu refers to Narmadānūpa. Thus this information of our Purāṇa appears to support the evidence of the Mbh. and the inscriptions. There is, however, another reference to the Anūpa-deśa in connection with the story of Pṛthu and here it appears that the region has some connection with the territory of Magadha. It has been suggested that this Anūpa might mean a part of Bengal, east of Magadha.<sup>68</sup> It should be noted that "*anūpa*" means "watery tract or region".

*Aparāntikas*: The Edicts of Aśoka mention Aparāntas as including Surāṣṭra, thus suggesting that Aparānta meant all the countries in Western India.<sup>69</sup> It appears that according to the Mbh. Aparānta included the whole of the Western Coast.<sup>70</sup> The Nasik inscription of Gautamīputra Balaśrī takes the same term as meaning a narrow region of the present Northern Konkan and the same inference appears to be evident from the other inscriptions of the Sātavāhana kings and of Rudradāman.<sup>71</sup> According to R. G. BHANDARKAR the Aparānta of the Purāṇas means the modern region of the North Konkan.<sup>72</sup> From the reference to Ariake in the Periplus, BHAGAVANLAL INDRAJI suggested that Aparāntaka signifies the Western sea-board of India<sup>73</sup> and the same appears to be the inference from the information of Ptolemy on that point.<sup>74</sup> The Mārkaṇḍeya seems to take Aparānta in a general sense

62. Cf. MALALABEKHARA, *Dictionary of Pāli Proper Names*, 91 for references; cf. also LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 24.

63. Cf. ABORI, 17, 330.

64. PHAI, 411.

65. *Ibid.* 424.

66. Cf. ABORI, 17, 330.

67. *Vā.* 94, 50 ff.

68. AIHT, 16.

69. PHAI, 259.

70. ALTEKAR, *op. cit.*, 2.

71. PHAI, 411, 420, 425.

72. *Early History of the Dehkan.*

73. *IA.* 8, 140.

74. Cf. ALTEKAR, *op. cit.*, 2.

meaning all the countries of Western India,<sup>75</sup> and that was also the information known to Yuan Chwang, the celebrated Chinese-Buddhist traveller.<sup>76</sup>

The reading of the Mārkaṇḍeya is changed in the Vāyu to "other countries" (cf. *aparāṁś tān*) and elsewhere we find mention of Vindhyaaparāntikas; and the people Aparāntas are shown as inhabiting the region of the Vindhyas, probably its westernmost extremity. Thus Vāyu shows that Aparānta region is a restricted area, that being probably the geographical knowledge of the redactor of the Purāṇa. The Gha reading of the Purāṇa, however, mentions Aparānta in the sense in which Mārkaṇḍeya uses it which appears to be the original reading changed by the other versions to 'saṁparitāḥ' from 'hyaparantāḥ'.

✓ *Āpagās*: The RV. mentions the river Āpayā with the Sarasvatī and Dr̥śadvatī.<sup>77</sup> The river Āpagā is mentioned in the Mbh. as flowing through the country of the Madras.<sup>78</sup> The Mārkaṇḍeya has Aupagās in the same connection as in the Vāyu,<sup>79</sup> and from the reference to the region of Āpagā in the Brahmāṇḍa Purāṇa its identification with Afghanistan has also been surmised.<sup>80</sup>

The fact that the Vāyu places the Āpagās in the north may perhaps corroborate the information of the RV. and the Mbh. but it is difficult to say whether we are justified to see here the modern region of Afghanistan.

*Aparītas*: The Mārkaṇḍeya has Aparāntas and the Matsya Purandharas in the same connection as in the Vāyu. The Mbh. mentions a tribe Aparānta and Mārkaṇḍeya's astronomical list locates it in Sindhu-Sauvira country, and the Vāyu reading 'Aparīta' is supposed to be wrong.<sup>81</sup> It must be stated that the Aparītas in the Vāyu are the *deśa* in the north and might mean an independent tribe of that name inhabiting the northern region of India. The Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa gives a separate list of Aparānta countries taking it in a broad sense and there the mention of the name Aparānta as a northern country is improbable.

✓ *Arbudas*: The mountain Arbuda is mentioned in the Mbh.<sup>82</sup> The people Arbudas of the Mārkaṇḍeya<sup>83</sup> and the Vāyu may be supposed to be inhabiting the region about that mountain.

*Asmakas*: The Asmakas are one of the sixteen great janapadas in the Jātakas.<sup>84</sup> They had, in Buddha's time, a settlement on the banks of the Godāvarī and in the Jātakas they are associated with the Avantis.<sup>85</sup> "The name, however, is ambiguous; for in Sanskrit we have names of two tribes, viz., the Aśmakas and Aśvakas as they are mentioned in

75. ABORI. 17. 325. 76. CUNNINGHAM, *Ancient Geography of India*, 690.

77. DAS, op. cit., 161, 178, 353. 78. SÖRENSEN. 79. ABORI. 17. 238.

80. DE, 10. 81. ABORI. 17. 231-2. 82. See DE, 10.

83. See ABORI, 17. 327. 84. DAVIDS, 23. 85. *Ibid.* 27.



the Mbh." and "either there were two distinct tribes so called or the Sanskrit form 'Aśvakā' is a wrong reading or a blunder in the sanskritisation of Assakā".<sup>86</sup> Pāṇini also mentions Aśmaka in one of his Sūtras.<sup>87</sup> A legend regarding the origin of the Aśmakas is found in the Brhannāradiya and Viṣṇu Purāṇas,<sup>88</sup> and it is suggested that the Aśmakas were an offshoot of the Ikṣvākus of Ayodhya.<sup>89</sup> The mention of Assakenoi by the Greek writers and the evidence of Brhatsamhitā and the Kūrma Purāṇa<sup>90</sup> suggest that their country was in the north-west.<sup>91</sup> But it has been suggested that the Assakenoi of the Greeks means the Aśvakas and not the Aśmakas.<sup>92</sup> Pāṇini, however, mentions, the Aśmakas in the Deccan.<sup>93</sup> The Hathigumphā Inscription of Khāravela mentions Asikanagara.<sup>94</sup>

The Vāyu has the Asmakas (not Aśmakas) as a janapada of the Dakṣiṇāpatha and thus its information sides with the Jātakas and Pāṇini. They are mentioned with Maunikas, Paunikas and Bhogavardhanas. There is a suggestion that Aśmaka and Mūlaka of the Ikṣvākus founded the two kingdoms of Aśmaka and Mūlaka regions<sup>95</sup> and D. R. BHANDARKAR suggests that they were independent kingdoms.<sup>96</sup> The Vāyu no doubt mentions the king Aśmaka and his successor Mūlaka but from the Vāyu evidence it is improbable that this line can be brought to the Deccan; for we find in the Purāṇa Raghu and Rāma as descendants of this Aśmaka who certainly ruled in the region of Ayodhyā. There is no indication in the Purāṇa that this king ruled in the Deccan also. It appears that sameness of names—which according to PARGITER has brought many errors in the Purāṇic dynastic lists<sup>97</sup>—has confused the redactors of the Brhannāradiya and Viṣṇu Purāṇas and thus they try to relate the king Aśmaka with the region Aśmaka. It should be noted that the Jātakas do not throw any light on this assumption.

*Aśvamukhas or Aśvakamukhyas*: (See Aśmakas above.) They are mentioned in the Brhatsamhitā<sup>98</sup> and were probably a north-western people. Its literal meaning "horse-faced" is interesting and there appears to have been a similar inference about them from the Greek sources also.<sup>99</sup> They are probably the same as the Assakenoi of the Greeks or the Aśvakas referred to above.

*Āṭavyas*: The Mārkaṇḍeya has Aḍhakyas and the Matsya agrees with the Vāyu reading in the same connection and it is supposed that the Vāyu reading is correct.<sup>100</sup> Āṭavī as a city in the Deccan is mentioned in the Mbh.<sup>101</sup> and the Āṭavyas of the Allahabad Pillar Inscription

86. *Ibid.* 28.

87. LAW, op. cit., 87.

88. WILSON, *Trans.*

89. LAW, op. cit., 88 ff.

90. See DE, 12.

91. PHAI, 121 ff.

92. *Ibid.* fn. 5.93. *Ibid.*

94. See MEHTA, 372 for reference.

95. PHAI, 122.

96. *Ibid.* 121.

97. Cf. AIHT, 131.

98. IA, 22, 174.

99. CHI, I, 159 fn.

100. ABORI, 17, 322.

101. SÖRENSEN.

tion of Samudragupta<sup>102</sup> probably signify the Ātavyas of the Purāṇa who were probably the aboriginal tribes of Central India.<sup>103</sup> The Vāyu appears to confirm this view by locating them in the Dakṣiṇāpatha.

*Ātreyas*: The Vāyu has the same information as in the Mārkaṇḍeya Purāṇa.<sup>104</sup>

*Aṭṭahāsa*: The region Aṭṭahāsa is mentioned in the Padma Purāṇa and in the Kubjikā Tantra and an attempt is made to identify it with the eastern part of Lābhalpur in Bengal. The Vāyu information makes it a mountain chain of the Himalayas thus coming into conflict with the above assumption.<sup>105</sup>

*Avantis*: The Avantis are one of the sixteen janapadas of the Jātakas with its capital Ujjeni.<sup>106</sup> The janapada of Avantis, according to D. R. BHANDARKAR, was divided into two parts: Northern part with its capital Ūjjenī and the southern one in Dakṣiṇāpatha with its capital Māhiṣmatī; but RAYCHAUDHARI hesitates to accept this conclusion.<sup>107</sup> The Mahāgovinda Suttanta mentions Māhissatī as the capital of the Avantis but the Mbh. distinguishes between the kingdoms of Avanti and Māhiṣmatī.<sup>108</sup>

The Vāyu mentions the janapada of the Avantis on the *Vindhya-prstha*. In the account of Kārtavīrya Arjuna we find Māhiṣmatī as "conquered" by him from the Nāgas and his sons in "Avantis" are afterwards mentioned. This probably suggests that Māhiṣmatī was the capital of Avanti. The five gaṇas of Haihayas, as enumerated in the Purāṇa, do not mention the Avantis but mention Āvartis. The Matsya Purāṇa has the former reading. But in the list of the janapadas Avantis are mentioned with Tuṇḍikeras and Vitihotras (two of these gaṇas). This would make us infer that Avanti as a separate janapada came into existence in later times while formerly it comprised the territory of all the five gaṇas. The Brhatsamhitā takes Avanti and Ujjayinī as meaning the same city.<sup>109</sup> But the Vāyu does not mention Ujjayinī at all. It should be noted that 'Avanti' definitely meaning "a city" is not mentioned in our Purāṇa.

*Avantī (river)*: Avantī and Śiprā are understood as being the two names of the same river.<sup>110</sup> But the Vāyu mentions Śiprā and Avantī separately, thus suggesting names of two rivers both of which had their source in the Pāriyātra mountain.

*Ayodhyā and Sāketa*: Both the cities of Ayodhyā and Sāketa are mentioned in the Jātakas.<sup>111</sup> Sāketa is supposed often to be the same as Ayodhyā but it is pointed out that they were possibly adjoining

102. FLEET, *Gupta Inscriptions*.

103. *ABORI*, 17. 322.

104. Cf. LAW, *ABORI*, 17. 237.

105. *Dz*, p. 13.

106. MERTHA, 372; DAVIDS, 23-8.

107. *PHAI*, 122 fn. 4.

108. *Ibid.* 123.

109. *IA*, 22. 174. 110. P. 14.

111. MERTHA, 350-1.

cities like London and Westminster.<sup>112</sup> It was a town on the river Śaryū.<sup>113</sup> The *Bṛhatsamhitā* mentions the inhabitants of Ayodhyā.<sup>114</sup>

The *Vāyu* mentions both 'the city' and 'the kingdom' of Ayodhyā. According to the *Jātakas* the city of Ayodhyā was included in the territory of Kosala being one of its three great cities.<sup>115</sup> Ayodhyā seems to have been the earliest and Sāketa the next capital of the Kosalas of the Buddhist works.<sup>116</sup> After the Ikṣvāku dynasty, it appears that this city had never had the privilege of being a capital; but it is suggested that the successors of Skanda-Gupta had a capital in Ayodhyā till the rise of the Maukharis.<sup>117</sup> It should be noted that in connection with the region of the *Guptavarmaśajas* we find the *Vāyu Purāṇa* mentioning Sāketas (and not Ayodhyā) as being one of their four important janapadas. The absence of Ayodhyā in the later Kali age accounts of the *Purāṇa* is significant.

**Bāhudā :** The river Bāhudā is mentioned in the *Mbh.*<sup>118</sup> as one of Eastern India. PARGITER identifies this river with that of the *Rāmāyaṇa* which joins the Ganges near Kanauj but DE' rejects this identification and identifies it with the Dhalabha, a feeder of the Rāpti in Oudh.<sup>119</sup>

The *Vāyu* mentions it with Gomati and *Dr̥ṣadvatī*, thus confirming PARGITER's view.

**Barbaras :** The *Mbh.* locates them in the north-west region with Śakas, Yavanas, etc. It has been contended that the "Barbaricum" of *Periplus* is the same as Barbarika of the *Dhanvantariya Nighaṇṭu*, an *Āyurvedic* work and that it was the city of the Barbaras.<sup>120</sup> It was the same as the Barbarii of Ptolemy which along with Patala formed the two towns of the islands formed by the river Sindhu.<sup>121</sup> The *Bṛhatsamhitā* mentions the Barbara people in the region of south-west which appears strange from the evidence sketched above.<sup>122</sup> It is held that they were a north-western tribe according to the *Bṛhatsamhitā* but no reference is quoted to support his statement. The *Bṛhatsamhitā* also mentions the Sindhu-Sauvīras, the Kambojas, the Ambaṣṭhas and the Kirātas in the south-west (*Nair̥ti dīśi*).<sup>123</sup>

The *Vāyu* too calls it a northern *deśa* and elsewhere the river Cakṣu is shown watering this land and passing through the Sindhu-maru country as in the *Matsya Purāṇa*.<sup>124</sup>

**Bhadrakāras :** The *Mbh.* mentions a people Bhadrakāras and also Bhadras. It is stated that both these people might mean the same. It is also suggested that they might have had their habitat near about

112. DAVIDS, 39. 113. *PHAI.* 85; cf. DE, 14 for details.

114. *IA.* 22, 174. 115. *PHAI.* 85. 116. *PHAI.* 90.

117. *Ibid.* 496. 118. SÖRENSEN. 119. DE, 16.

120. *IC.* 1, 389; CUNNINGHAM, op. cit., 694-5. 121. *IC.* 1, 389.

122. *IA.* 22, 174; LAW, *ICI.* 389. 123. XIV. 18. 124. *IC.* 1, 389.

the Kurus, the Matsyas and that the Uttamabhadras, known in historical times as a republican tribe, might have been a section of the Paurāṇic Bhadrakāras. The Mārkaṇḍeya has Bhadrakaras<sup>125</sup> in the same connection as in the Vāyu.

The Vāyu places them in the Madhya-deśa and thus confirms the evidence of the Mārkaṇḍeya.

**Bhadrāsvas :** The people of the name Bhadrāsvas are referred to in the Bṛhatsamhitā which mentions the king of Bhadrāsvas and KERN, in his note to his translation of the same work, remarks : "The Bhadrāsvas are a mythical people fabled to have lived in the remote East...The origin of the Bhadrāsvas living near the Udayagiri may be traced to the RV. (I. 115. 2 ff.)".<sup>126</sup> KERN further adds that they were probably the same as the Bhadras of the Madhya-deśa.

In the Vāyu also they appear to be a mythical people of the East and there is no indication as to where we should place them.

**Bhānukacchas :** The Mārkaṇḍeya has Bhīrukacchas in the same connection as in the Vāyu. They are stated to be the same as the Bhṛgukacchas of Sanskrit literature. The region about modern Broach represents their country which is the same as the Baryagaza of early Greek Geographers.<sup>127</sup> Bharukaccha as "a seaport town of the Bharu kingdom" is also mentioned in the Jātakas.<sup>128</sup>

The Vāyu also has the reading Bharukacchas and it locates them in the same region as above.

**Bhāradvājas :** The Bhīṣma Parvan of the Mbh. mentions them with the Ātreyas. The evidence of the Epic seems to locate them "not far from the upper regions of the Ganges near the hills".<sup>129</sup>

The Vāyu agrees to a certain extent with the above assumption by referring to the Bhāradvājas as a northern deśa and by mentioning them with the Ātreyas.

**Bhārgavas :** The Mbh. mentions Bhargas who are taken to be the same as the Bhārgavas. It is further stated that they were perhaps the eastern branch of the Bhaggas of Sumsumāragiri.<sup>130</sup> The Vāyu has the same information as in the Mārkaṇḍeya in which connection the above inferences are made.

**Bhīmarathī :** This river is mentioned in the Purāṇa with Godāvarī and Kṛṣṇā as flowing from the Sahya mountain and thus is the same as the modern Bhīmā river. Varāhamihira mentions the same river by the name Bhīmarathā.<sup>131</sup>

125. ABORI. 17. 228-9. 126. IA. 22. 175.

127. ABORI. 17. 326 ; DE, 32 ; CUNNINGHAM, op. cit. For details about Bharukaccha see also ALTEKAR, op. cit., 33-5.

128. MEHTA, 412.

129. ABORI. 17. 238.

130. Ibid. 17. 241.

131. IA. 22. 175.

**Bhogavardhanas :** The Bharhut Inscription mentions Bhogavardham<sup>132</sup> but the identification of the tribe, Bhogavardhanas, is difficult to suggest. Varāhamihira mentions the Bhogavardhana country (or a city of that name ?) summarily and the mention is 'perhaps' an interpolation.<sup>133</sup> Their association with the Asmakas in the Purāṇa suggests that they inhabited a region close to the Asmakas, i.e., in the Dakṣiṇāpatha.

**Bhojas :** They are mentioned in the Brāhmaṇa literature and had spread over Central and Southern India from the period represented by the Brāhmaṇas<sup>134</sup> onwards. There is also an evidence about their association with Vidarbha<sup>135</sup> and the Bhojas are mentioned in the edicts of Aśoka.<sup>136</sup> Kauṭilya's information suggests that the Bhojas were ruling in his time in the Daṇḍaka.<sup>137</sup> The Vāyu mentions them with Utkalas, Uttamārṇas, Daśārṇas and Kiṣkindhakas thus probably locating them somewhere about Vidarbha and not in Daṇḍaka which occurs separately in the list. It should be noted that the Vāyu mentions them as occupying the Vindhya-praṣṭha (Vindhya plateau).

**Bhṛgutūṅga :** On the evidence of Varāha-Purāṇa it is located as a mountain in Nepal to the eastern bank of Gaṇḍakī.<sup>138</sup> This appears improbable from the statement in the Vāyu that after ascending the Bhṛgutūṅga one goes to the holy river Sarasvatī.

**Bindusaras :** On the evidence of the epics and the Matsya Purāṇa it is located as a place 2 miles south of Gangotri.<sup>139</sup> The Vāyu agrees with the Brahmanḍa Purāṇa in showing its situation at the foot of the Gauḍa (Gaura in Vāyu) mountain.<sup>140</sup> Our Purāṇa further says that in the vicinity of this lake king Bhagīratha dwelt for many years, an information confirmed by the Rāmāyaṇa and the Matsya Purāṇa.<sup>141</sup>

**Bodhas :** They are mentioned also in the Mbh. and the Rāmāyaṇa. Their location somewhere in the eastern districts of the Punjab is suggested by LAW.<sup>142</sup> The Matsya Purāṇa has Bāhyas in the same connection as in the Vāyu.<sup>143</sup> The Vāyu calls them a janapada of the Madhyadeśa.

**Brahmottaras :** It is suggested that Suhmottara is the original reading implying thereby their location to the north of the Suhma country.<sup>144</sup> This is probable because Sumha, son of king Bali, after whom the janapada Suhma was known, is also mentioned as Brahma in our Purāṇa.<sup>145</sup> Their location in the east by our Purāṇa confirms the

132. BARUA and SAMHA, *Bharhut Inscriptions*, 15.

133. *I.A.* 22, 175.

134. For detailed information from other sources on the Bhojas, cf. LAW, *op. cit.*, 176 ff.

135. PHAI, 77.

136. See *Ibid.* for references.

137. *Ibid.*

138. *Du.* 34.

139. *Ibid.* 38.

140. *Ibid.*

141. *Ibid.* for references.

142. Cf. *ABORI.* 17, 229.

143. *Ibid.*

144. *Ibid.* 17, 241.

145. Cf. *Vāyu*, 99, 85.

same. It should also be noted that the Vāyu Purāṇa mentions the region of Brahmostaras with Aṅgas, Vaṅgas and Magadhas as being watered by the river Gangā. Aṅga and Vaṅga were the two other sons of king Bali. The interpretation that the Brahmostaras were a people who inhabited the region north of the Brahma or Sumha country may probably be not correct and it appears that the Brahmostaras are the same as the Brahmas who, however, are not mentioned as such.

*Charmakhaṇḍikas*: The Mārkaṇḍeya has the same reading as in the Vāyu in this connection but the Matsya has Ātta-Khaṇḍikas (or Cātta-Khaṇḍikas) while the Mbh. has Carmamaṇḍalas. It is suggested that the region occupied by them might be identified with the one about Samarkand.<sup>146</sup> We have a reference in the Bṛhat-Saṃhitā to 'Charmaraṅga' as people in the north-west division, and the same source refers to an island named a Carmadvīpa (lit. island of bark) in the south-west division.<sup>147</sup> But it is difficult to suggest anything about their identification on this very account. The reference to a river named Carmanvatī in our Purāṇa flowing from the Pāriyātra mountain may be a pointer towards location of the people who, it is tempting to suggest, might be the same as the Charmaraṅgas of Varāhamihira.

*Caulyas or Colas (?)*: The Colas are mentioned in the inscriptions of Aśoka. Their country is roughly the modern region of the Districts of Trichinopoly and Tanjore drained by the river Kāveri.<sup>148</sup> It is interesting here to note that in the Tamil tradition the Colas have also Śembiyan as their name which is "generally taken to mean a descendant of Śibi".<sup>149</sup> In the Mbh. they are seen fighting on the side of the Pāṇḍavas and are mentioned with Drāvidas, Āndhrakas and Pāṇḍyas.<sup>150</sup>

The Vāyu locates them with Pāṇḍyas, Keralas, etc., in the Dakṣiṇāpatha. They are again shown vanquished by king Sagara along with the Khasas, etc., as Kṣatriya-gaṇas and the Cola-janapada is derived from a son of Janāpīda, a descendent of Turvasu. Thus if we believe in the Vāyu tradition they were once in the north as Kṣatriyas having some connection with the Turvasu branch of Yayāti. PARGITER, however, thinks that their connection with Sagara's story is erroneous.<sup>151</sup> But in this account of the Vāyu Purāṇa they are not associated with either the Pāṇḍyas or the Keralas or such other admittedly southern people. It is on this ground that PARGITER suggests that "the Colas it seems were not the Colas of South India but rather another frontier tribe whose name appears as Culikas in later times".<sup>152</sup> He also asserts that the kingdoms of Cola, Pāṇḍya and Kerala were offshoots of the Turvasu branch of the Ailas.<sup>153</sup>

146. B. C. LAW quotes a suggestion of PARGITER on which he bases his statement but does not quote a reference in that connection. Cf. *ABORI.* 17. 233.

147. *IA.* 22. 176.

148. *PHAI.* 271.

149. K. A. NILAKANTHA SASTRI, *Colas*, 75.

150. SÖRENGEN.

151. *AIHT.* 27B. fn. 5.

152. *JRAS.* 1919, 358.

153. *AIHT.* 382.

It is interesting to note here that the Vāyu does not mention the Colas in its list of tribes in India. It mentions the Cūlikas in the north and the Caulyas in the Dakṣiṇāpatha. The Colas are mentioned in reference to genealogica. The question remains whether the Colas in Sagara account should be identified with the Cūlikas or the Caulyas or whether all the names mean distinct tribes. The Colas, descendants of Janāpīḍa are mentioned with Keralas, etc., and they appear to be an offshoot of the Turvasu line and thus mean a Southern people.<sup>154</sup> Śibi, we know, belonged to the line of Druhyas. But at any rate, Śibi and Janāpīḍa were descendants of Yayāti. Still the connection of Śibi with Colas, so far as the Vāyu is concerned, is far-fetched though certainly suggestive. If we regard the Colas in Sagara account as the same as Cūlikas suggested by PARGITER their location in the north becomes probable.

**Cūlikas:** PARGITER places them, tentatively, in about the north-west region and connects them with the Piśācas.<sup>155</sup> He quotes the Matsya, Mārkaṇḍeya, Vāyu, etc., in support.

**Cinas:** The Mbh. locates them both in the extreme north-west and in the east and also at the source of the Ganges.<sup>156</sup> The Rāmāyana mentions the Western Cinas (in the west).<sup>157</sup> For the Cinas in the Mārkaṇḍeya list, Vāyu has a corresponding reading Pīna (except in Na which has Pina). Thus Vāyu does not show them in the north but probably locates them in the extreme east. We find also here a mention of Cīnamaru country but it is difficult to identify it.

**Daśārṇas:** A town named Erakaccha in the Dasarṇa (Daśārṇa) country is referred to in the Pāli literature but this reference does not help much in locating the country of the people.<sup>158</sup> Kauṭilya also mentions the Daśārṇas, the elephants from whose region are, according to him, of a secondary category as compared with those from Aṅga and Kāliṅga.<sup>159</sup> The Mbh. refers to the Daśārṇas and during the period represented by the epics, it is suggested, that these people seem to have more than one settlement and the Mbh. thus refers to two Daśārṇas, one in the west conquered by Nakula and another in the east (or south-east) subjugated by Bhīmasena.<sup>160</sup> According to the Rāmāyana and the other Purāṇas, the Daśārṇas are often shown as grouped with the Mālavas, Karuṣas, Utkalas, Mekalas, etc. In the Periplus there is a reference to Dosarena which might indicate a knowledge of these people. Kālidāsa, however, gives a better information about them and in his 'Meghadūta' he refers to their country with its

154. *Ibid.* 292.

156. For details cf. *ABORI.* 17, 236-7.

158. *LAW*, op. cit., 2. 30.

160. *LAW*, op. cit., 29; cf. also B. A. SALTONE, *Wild Tribes in Indian History*, 103 ff.

155. *JRAS.* 1912, 713.

157. *Ibid.*

159. Book II, Ch. II.

capital Vidiśā (i. e. modern Bhiṣa), situated on the river Vetravati. They seem to have occupied the region about the river Daśārṇā (i. e. the modern river of the name Daśān) which is a tributary of the Vetravati.<sup>161</sup>

The Vāyu mentions them with the Mālavas, Karūṣas and Utkalas and thus places them somewhere in Central India (cf. also the river Daśārṇā).

**Daśārṇā**: The name of a river Dosaron mentioned by Ptolemy<sup>162</sup> sounds very much like the Daśārṇā, which actually occurs in the list of rivers issuing from the Ṛkṣa mountain as given in many other Purāṇas including the Vāyu-copy used by Alberuni.<sup>163</sup> This Daśārṇā, it is suggested, is the modern river named Dhasan near Saugor in the C. P.<sup>164</sup> In the Periplus also the name Dosarena occurs thus suggesting a knowledge of the same river.

The Vāyu, in addition to the reference quoted above, also associates the river with Kālāñjara suggesting that this holy place (of Kālāñjara) was situated on its banks. The Mbh., however, associates Kālāñjara with the mountain Citrakūta. Thus the identity of the river Daśārṇa becomes more difficult in view of its association with Kālāñjara.

**Dṛṣadvatī**: According to the Mbh. Kurukṣetra was situated on the banks of the river<sup>165</sup> and in its Vana-parvan it is mentioned as forming the southern boundary-line of the holy land.<sup>166</sup> CUNNINGHAM identifies it with the river Rakshi which flows by the south-east of Thaneshwar.<sup>167</sup> It should be noted that Varāhamihira knew of a tank at Thaneshwar which was famed holy in his days.

The Vāyu too appears to support this suggestion of CUNNINGHAM as it expressly states, as does the Mbh., that Kurukṣetra was situated on the banks of this river (see Kurukṣetra).

**Dvārakā, Dvārāvati or Kuṣasthalī**: The first and perhaps the only early epigraphical reference to Kṛṣṇa's Dvārakā is found in the Pālitānā Plates of Sāmanta Siṃhāditya of about 600 A.D.<sup>168</sup> The location of the city of Dvārakā in which Kṛṣṇa lived and its identity with the modern city of the same name is still a moot point.<sup>169</sup> The name of a city of Dvārakā occurs in the Pāli literature in connection with the Kāmbojas but it is not here expressly stated that it was a capital city of the Kāmboja people.<sup>170</sup> The Mbh. abounds in references to this city in connection with Kṛṣṇa and it contains a legend to the effect that the

161. *Ibid.* 162. VII. i 39-41.

163. RAYCHAUDHARI, *Studies in Indian Antiquities*, 124.

164. *Ibid.*

165. SÖRENSEN. 166. For details cf. CUNNINGHAM, *op. cit.*, 382 ff.

167. *Archaeological Survey Reports*, 14.

168. Cf. SANKALIA, *op. cit.*, 227, App. 21.

169. Cf. ALTEKAR, *op. cit.*, 25; cf. also *IHQ*.

170. LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 50.



city was washed off by the encroachment of the ocean upon the mainland where the city was situated.<sup>171</sup> Many other Purāṇas refer to this event.<sup>172</sup>

The Vāyu evidence does not throw much light on the problem. But the fact that Prasena, when he went for hunting, lost his life in the region where the Ṛkṣa-rāja, probably a chief of a people inhabiting the Ṛkṣa mountain, ruled, suggests that the Vāyu Dvāravatī is not the same as the modern one. The story of the flooding away of this city is nowhere hinted at in the Purāṇa.

In the Mbh. the cities Kuśasthalī and Dvārakā are mentioned as identical. But the Vāyu however appears to suggest that they were two cities (cf. No. 681) but the fact that two Mss. omit the reference to Dvāravatī is significant.

**Gāndhāras:** The people of this name are known from the very early times.<sup>173</sup> The Jātakas include the Gandhāra country in their list of the sixteen great janapadas. The Behistun inscription of Darius (of about 516 B.C.) purports to record that Gadara or Gandhāra was one of the kingdoms subject to the Persian Empire.<sup>174</sup> In the time of Aśoka, however, Gandhāra formed part of the Empire of the great Buddhist emperor; and the Gāndhāras with their capital Takkaśilā are mentioned in the Fifth Rock Edict of Aśoka.<sup>175</sup> The Mbh. also refers to Takkaśilā as their capital city.<sup>176</sup> According to the Matsya and the other Purāṇas the Gāndhāra kings were the descendents of Druhya, a son of Yayāti. The king Druhya and his people are mentioned several times in the RV. and it is stated that it is probable that the Druhyas were probably a north-western people.<sup>177</sup> Thus the Purāṇic tradition about the connection of the Gāndhāras with Druhya accords with the Vedic evidence.<sup>178</sup>

The Vāyu has the same tradition as in the Matsya about the origin of the name of the people. Its information about the two important cities of Takkaśilā and Puṣkarāvati accords well with that of the great epic. The particular reference in our Purāṇa to the best breed of horses in this region is significant.

**Gokarna:** There are in India more than one sacred place bearing the name Gokarna.<sup>179</sup> The Tirtha of Gokarna is in the N. Kanara district of the Bombay Province and is still a celebrated place of

171. Mbh. XVII 7.

172. See ALTEKAR; no references are, however, quoted here.

173. See LAW, *Some Kṣatriya Tribes in Ancient India*, Chapter IX.

174. Cf. LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 50; RAYCHAUDHARI, *Studies in Indian Antiquities*, 22.

175. See PHAI. 93.

176. Cf. LAW, *op. cit.*, 49.

177. See *Ved. Ind.*, 1. 385.

178. Cf. PHAI. 93.

179. IC. 4, 263.

pilgrimage.<sup>180</sup> Another holy place of the same name is located in Nepal<sup>181</sup> which is probably the same Gokarṇa that is mentioned in the Monghyr Copper-plate inscription of king Devapāla of the Pāla dynasty of Bengal. There is much of literary tradition about the former Gokarṇa.<sup>182</sup>

It is not clear whether the Vāyu Gokarṇa is the same as the Gokarṇa in the North Canara District. The Purāṇa, however, locates it in the southern region. The mention of the river Tāmraparṇi<sup>183</sup> as having its source in the mountainous region near Gokarna suggests that the Vāyu Gokarṇa is not the same as the present Gokarṇa in the North Canara District.

*Hairavati*: The river Hiraññavati is mentioned in the Dīgha-Nikāya. It is the Little Gandak and the same as Ajitavati near Kuśinārā or Kusinagara. It flows through the Gorakhpur District and joins the Ghogra (i.e. Śarayu).<sup>184</sup>

*Hastināpura*: The city of this name is mentioned in the Jātakas and the Pāli Canonical literature.<sup>185</sup> The Hatthipura of the Jātakas may be the same as the Hastināpura of the epic and Purāṇic tradition/and it has been identified with an old town in the Mawana Tehsil in Meerut division.<sup>186</sup>

The Vāyu informs that the city was founded by king Hastin of the Paurava line and it was in later times flooded by the Ganges. The exact location of the city, however, is not indicated in our Purāṇa.

*Hūṇas*: The Mbh. knows the Hūṇas and generally associates them with the Pārasikas.<sup>187</sup> The Rāmāyana, however, does not allude to them.<sup>188</sup> It has been found that no literary work, the date of which can be definitely assigned to a period earlier than the 5th century A.D., speaks anything about them.<sup>189</sup> They are, however, referred to in the Raghuvamśa of Kālidāsa.<sup>190</sup> They probably appeared for the first time on the Indian soil in the time of Skandagupta (455-67 A.D.) under the distinctive name Hūṇa.<sup>191</sup>

The Vāyu mentions them summarily as one of the peoples who inhabited the mountainous regions with Dārvas, Khasas, etc. It should be noted that the Mārkaṇḍeya mentions Ūrṇas, instead of the Hūṇas of the Vāyu in the same connection.<sup>192</sup>

180. See *Bombay Gazetteer*, 15. 2. 288 ff. 181. IC. 4. 265-7.

182. For details cf. *Bombay Gazetteer*, op. cit., and see also Dz, 70.

183. Cf. RAYCHAUDHARI, *Studies in Indian Antiquities*, 60. 111.

184. LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 37. 185. LAW, op. cit., 19, 39.

186. CUNNINGHAM, op. cit., 702; cf. also PHAI.

187. BAGCHI, *Presidential Address to Indian History Congress*, 1943, 24.

188. *Ibid.* 25. 189. *Ibid.* 190. *Ibid.*

191. *Ibid.* and also cf. R. D. BANERJI, *Age of the Imperial Guptas*, 46 ff.

192. Cf. 57. 56-7.

**Kaliṅga:** The country of the Kaliṅgas is mentioned by Pīṇini and Baudhāyana brands their land as impure including it in his list of *samkṛṣṇa-yonayah*. According to Kauṭilya Kaliṅga elephants are amongst the best of the species. All these authorities, including also those of the classical Greek writers, such as Pliny and others, mean by Kaliṅga the region of or about the modern Orissa bordering along the sea-coast.<sup>193</sup> (In the Hathigumphā Cave Inscriptions we find the capital of Khāravela mentioned as Kaliṅga-nagara.) The Mbh. and the other Purāṇas tell a story of the five sons of king Bali amongst whom Kaliṅga was one whose name the region under him bore.

The Vāyu also tells the same story and, as in Baudhāyana, our Purāṇa also mentions the region as impure and taboo for śrāddha where the Āramadharma does not prevail. It is a southern land probably near the region of the Māhiṣikas. Our Purāṇa gives its location as being to the south-east of the Amaraṅgaṭaka mountain.

**Kāmbojas:** The reference to the people Kāmbojas by Yāska may probably be the earliest literary information about them.<sup>194</sup> In the Indian tradition they are often associated with the Gāndhāras. They are mentioned accordingly in the early Pāli Canonical literature of the Buddhists.<sup>195</sup> The Mbh. also refers to them often with the Gāndhāras.<sup>196</sup> Although the name of Gandhāra survived for long centuries that of the Kāmbojas was later forgotten. "This makes it probable that they belonged to the nomad hordes of Central Asia which were moving from place to place".<sup>197</sup> The numerous references to Kāmboja horses as being of the best breed in both the epics may be considered as significant in this connection.<sup>198</sup>

The Vāyu refers to them as a northern people and mentions them in the story of Sagara who is said to have vanquished them with the Sakas, Haihayas, etc., who according to PARGITER, were the foreign tribes of the north. The Vāyu, however, refers to "the best breed of horses" not in connection with the Kāmbojas but with the Gāndhāras.

**Kauśāmbī:** The expression Kauśāmbeya as a local epithet of a person occurs in Śatapatha and Gopatha Brāhmaṇas<sup>199</sup> and "it may be safely inferred that the name Kauśāmbī was prevalent as early as the age of the Brāhmaṇa literature."<sup>200</sup> The high antiquity of the city of Kauśāmbī, as the capital of the Vatsa country, is further testified by frequent references to it in the text of the Pāli Canon and in the epics

193. For details cf. *ABORI*. 21. 203-9.

194. See BAGCHI, op. cit., 2, cf. B. C. LAW, *Some Kṣatriya Tribes of Ancient India*, Ch. VIII, for details about them.

195. LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 26.

197. BAGCHI, op. cit., 3.

199. LAW, *Kauśāmbī in Ancient Literature*, (*MAI*, 60), 1.

196. Cf. *ABORI*. 17. 236.

198. *ABORI*. 17. 236.

200. *Ibid.*

and the other Purāṇas.<sup>201</sup> /As to the exact identification of the place where this ancient city stood, there is some difference of opinion amongst scholars. According to CUNNINGHAM the present village Kosam stands on the actual site of Kauśāmbī.<sup>202</sup> But VINCENT SMITH says that the site is still to be looked for and when looked for it will be found in a native state in Baghelkhand Agency probably on the Tons river, not very far from the East Indian Railway which connects Allahabad with Jubbulpore.<sup>203</sup> CUNNINGHAM's identification is now generally accepted.<sup>204</sup>

The Vāyu does not help in fixing the location of the site of this city. It only says that the city of Hastināpura was washed off by the Ganges and that the king Nirvaktra, son of Adhisāmakṛṣṇa, who was ruling at that time, shifted his capital to Kauśāmbī. The explanation that the city of Hastināpura was flooded by the Ganges is considered as inadequate by PARGITER<sup>205</sup> and the Purāṇic tradition only means that he was forced to abandon the city. The Purāṇa does not appear to indicate that Kauśāmbī, his new capital, was founded by the king.

*Kulyas*: There is, for the present, no information about them from any other source. LAW takes them to be the same as the Kulutas who, according to him, dwelt in the Punjab and are mentioned in the inscriptions of about the 1st century A.D.<sup>206</sup>

But it should be noted that the Vāyu places them both in the north and south and it is doubtful whether their identification with the Kulutas should be regarded as correct.

*Kuntalas*: The Mbh. locates them in the region about Kāśī and Kośala and also in the western and southern India.<sup>207</sup>

The Vāyu, however, shows them in the north and in the south and does not show their association with either the Kāśīs or the Kośalas.

*Kurus*: The Kuru country is mentioned in the RV.<sup>208</sup> and the Pāli literature alludes to the Kuru country (i. e. Uttarakuru) as a mythical region. The case of South Kurus is, however, different and is as such one of the sixteen *mahājanapadas* of *Jambudvīpa* in the Buddhist literature.<sup>209</sup> The region about Thanesvar, Panipat and Sonapat may indicate the ancient Kuru land.

The Vāyu gives a picturesque description of the Uttarakuru, country and it must be deemed to be a fabulous region. Elsewhere the Vāyu associates the people Kurus with Pañcālas probably suggesting the geographical contiguity of the regions occupied by them.

201. *Ibid.*, cf. also MEHTA, 387; for details see LAW, op. cit.

202. Op. cit., 454 and 709. 203. See JRAS. 1898, 503.

204. See GHOSH, *Early History of Kaulāmbī*, 93-4.

205. *AIHT*, 285.

206. *ABORI*, 17, 224.

207. *Ibid.*

208. *Ved. Ind.*, 8.

209. LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 17.

The Ait. Br. mentions the Uttarakurus as distinguished from the Kurus in the Punjab.<sup>210</sup> The existence of the Uttarakurus in the region of Central Asia beyond the Himalayas is noted by Greek writers of the 5th cent. A.D. Ptolemy mentions, for the first time, a town named Ottarakorrha and of a river and a mountain bearing the same name in the Serique (Chinese Turkestan) near the mountain Emodos (Himavat). Uttarakuru thus signified Chinese Turkestan.<sup>†</sup>

**Mālavas :** According to D. R. BHANDARKAR<sup>211</sup> there are three stages in their history. Their earliest location is found in the Punjab where they opposed the invading Alexander. The Greek writers knew them as Malloi.<sup>212</sup> Later on they migrated to the South in Rajputana near about the Jaipur State, for their coins have been found just over here.<sup>213</sup> The Mbh. also locates them there.<sup>214</sup> Their occupation of this region is testified by the Nasik cave inscriptions of Śaka Uṣavadāta.<sup>215</sup> In the Gupta period, however, they seem to have migrated still to the south and settled somewhere in the north-western part of Central India.<sup>216</sup>

The Vāyu calls them the inhabitants of the Vindhya and of the mountainous territories and thus shows us their location in the area indicated by the inscription of Samudragupta.

**Pārādas :** On the strength of an almost unanimous Purāṇic and Epic tradition which associates them with the barbarous foreign tribes of the north, PARGITER locates them in the North-west.<sup>217</sup> The Manu-smṛti says that they were originally Kṣatriyas and lost this status through their avoidance of the sacred rites.<sup>218</sup> The Mbh. at one place associates them with the Ābhīras.

A tribe named Palidas is mentioned in the Edicts of Aśoka with Andhras, Bhojas, etc., and a variant of this name in another version of the same edict at Gīrnar and Kalsi is Pālada. Due to this fact a controversy has arisen whether this tribe is to be known as the Pārādas or Pulindas in Sanskrit. If they be taken as Pārādas they are to be located in the south. It is doubtful whether such interpretation should be considered as correct.<sup>219</sup>

The Vāyu mentions them with the foreigners from the north and nowhere locates them in the south.

210. BAGCHI, op. cit., 2.

† BAGCHI, op. cit.

211. *Charnichael Lectures*, 1918, 12-3. For details about them cf. also LAW, *Ancient Indian Tribes*, 2, 37 ff.

212. JAYASWAL, 1, 68 ff., cf. also PHAI.

213. *Ibid.* 154-5; cf. also ABORI, 13, 223 ff.

214. JAYASWAL, 1, 155.

215. ABORI, 13, 225.

216. *Ibid.* 227.

217. Cf. JRAS, 1917, 40-47; 1910, 9-10; 1919, 354-61.

218. X, 43-4.

219. PHAI, 259; cf. also ABORI, 21, 211-2.

**Ranajats :** The Mbh. calls them a western people and Varāhamihira gives a similar information.<sup>220</sup> According to some Purāṇas ( Matsya and Kūrma ), however, they are to be located in the north.<sup>221</sup>

The Vāyu too mentions them as a northern deśa.

**Tuṣāras :** The Greek writers, Ptolemy and the Periplus, appear to locate them in the province round Bactria and the Mbh. and the Hari-varṇśa refer to them as an outside northern race along with the Mlecchas and Dasyus. According to LASSEN they inhabited the region north of Hindukush.<sup>222</sup> It has been only recently pointed out that the Tokharians of the Greek geographers were a Central Asian people living to the north of Kashmir.<sup>223</sup> There is considerable information from the Chinese sources in this connection but we need not dilate upon it here.<sup>224</sup> Some Purāṇas confuse the Tuṣāras with Turuṣkas (i.e. the Turks)<sup>225</sup> but the Vāyu does not do so.

The Vāyu mentions Tuṣāras with Yavanas, Śakas and Barbaras and with Āndhras also. Elsewhere it calls them a Northern deśa which probably means the same as the one inferred from the above evidence.

**Vaitaraṇī :** The Buddhist tradition supports that of the Brahmaṇa that the Vetaraṇī is Yama's river. It is the river Vaitaraṇī in Orissa and is referred to in the Mbh. as flowing in Kalinga. According to the Padma and Matsya Purāṇas, however, it is the river that flows north of Bassein which was brought down on earth by Paraśurāma and the Epic elsewhere takes it to Kurukṣetra. Thus its identification is difficult to ascertain.<sup>226</sup>

The Vāyu refers to it as a sacred river and taking into consideration the unholy character of Kalinga land the Vāyu probably does not show it flowing through that country. But it says that the river has its source in the Vindhya and it may be we have here something to do with the tradition in the Matsya Purāṇa.

**Vatsas :** The Mārkaṇḍeya has Matsya for the Vatsa of the Vāyu.<sup>227</sup>

**Vetravatī :** The river Vetravatī and a city of that name is mentioned in the Jātakas. Kālidāsa mentions the river of this name in his Meghadūta. It is undoubtedly the modern Betva, a small tributary of the Ganges.<sup>228</sup>

That the Vāyu means the same Vetravatī as that of Kālidāsa is clear from its mention of Śīprā and Avantī along with the river Vetravatī.

220. I.A. 22.

222. For details see ABORI. 22, 95-6.

224. See Ibid. for details.

226. LAW, *Geography of Early Buddhism*, 40.

227. See ABORI. 17. 224 ; also LAW, op. cit., 16-17.

221. Cf. ABORI. 21, 210.

223. BAGCHI, op. cit., 14 ff.

225. Ibid. 20.

228. LAW, op. cit., 35.

**Yaudheyas :** Pāṇini refers to the Yaudheyas as "*dyudhajivī saṅgha*" i.e., probably as a republican tribe subsisting on the profession of arms. Here they are mentioned with the Trigarttas<sup>229</sup> and the Mbh. says that they were defeated by Arjuna along with the Mālavas and the Trigarttas. The epic references to them suggest that they were also associated with the Śivis and Ambaṣṭhas.<sup>230</sup> According to the epic evidence they were probably settled somewhere in the Punjab and their migration to southern regions is suggested by the inscriptional and numismatic evidence about them.<sup>231</sup> According to the Purāṇic tradition in general, including the Vāyu, they were the descendents of king Uśīnara and were related to the Śivis and Ambaṣṭhas as their kinsmen.<sup>232</sup> CUNNINGHAM identifies them with the Johiya Rajputs of today who inhabit the region round Multan.<sup>233</sup>

It should be noted that the Vāyu does not refer to them in its lists of tribes. It is only in the genealogical portion that the name Yaudheya occurs and a reference to them is found commonly in the Purāṇic tradition, a fact which is already noted above.

## II

This part of the Appendix has been prepared with a view to make available the geographical and tribal material of the Purāṇa in the form of a ready reference work. All geographical names have been included in this section. The tribal names, such as, Pāraśavas, Śudras, Āndhras, Śakas, Pulindas, Tūlikas, Yavanas, Kaivartas, Ābhīras, Śabaras, and the various *jātis* of the Mlecchas (Vā. 99. 268-9) and also Gardabhins, Tuṣāras, Manaṇṭas [ Kha, Gh, Gha and Na : Maruṇḍas ; Ga : Muruṇḍas elsewhere in the same context ], Maunas, Vṛṣalas, Kolikilas, Nāgas (Vā. 99. 358-66), Vindhyakas, Vāhlikas, Meghas [ Na has Medhātithi which dispenses with a tribal name ], Pañcakas, and Brāhmaṇas (Vā. 99. 373-8) have not been included in the appendix as they are merely referred to in the Purāṇa as dynastic names said to be ruling in the 'future'. ( For the relevant details about them see PARGITER : *Purāṇic Text of the Dynasties of the Kali Age* pp. 2-3, 44-8 and 50-1 ). All other tribal names are included in the list.

It will be obvious to one acquainted with the Purāṇas that it is sometimes difficult to understand the distinction between an adjective and a proper name. Wherever a doubt as to this had arisen it is indicated by a question mark. Again, sometimes a compound word

229. See LAW, *Ancient Indian Tribes*, 2. 43 ff. for details cf. also JAYASWAL, 1.

230. Cf. LAW, op. cit., for reference.

231. See PHAI. and cf. also JAYASWAL, op. cit.

232. Cf. AIHT. 264.

233. *Ancient Geography of India*, 281-2.

occurs which appears to signify a name and it is difficult to decide whether we should split up the compound and understand different names or simply take up the whole word as signifying one name. Such doubts are also expressed by a question mark.

There are certain geographical names which, according to general assumption, belong purely to the domain of mythology but some scholars have attempted to identify even such names. It would be prejudging an issue for us to exclude these names for the present and hence these names are included in the list.

This Section has been arranged as follows: (1) Serial Number, (2) The name proper, (3) Its distinctive geographical or tribal feature, (4) Relevant details about it, and (5) Reference figures in brackets.

The abbreviations used for (3) are as follows:

|     |   |          |     |   |                        |
|-----|---|----------|-----|---|------------------------|
| Cy. | — | City     | P.  | — | People or tribe        |
| D.  | — | Deśa     | Rg. | — | Region                 |
| Dv. | — | Dvipa    | Rv. | — | River                  |
| F.  | — | Forest   | S.  | — | Sea                    |
| H.  | — | Hill     | St. | — | Sthalī or marshy tract |
| Ja. | — | Janapada | T.  | — | Tank                   |
| Kṣ. | — | Kṣetra   | Tī. | — | Tīrtha                 |
| L.  | — | Lake     | Vr. | — | Varṣa                  |
| Mt. | — | Mountain | Vṣ. | — | Viṣaya                 |

1. Ābhīras—(D.)—No. 130
2. A(Ā)bhīras—Ja.—No. 130.
3. Ābhīras—Ja.—No. 470.
4. Acalakūṭakas or (Māheyācalakūṭakas?)—Ja.—No. 569.
5. Acchoda—L.—Acchodā was a *mānasī* daughter of the Agniṣvāta pitṛs. She is called a river (*nimnagā*). From her is the heavenly lake Acchoda so called. Acchodā was originally a heavenly river but had fallen down on the earth due to her sinful behaviour. [Ka, Ga, Gha and Na omit this portion of the text.] (73. 1-5)
6. Acchodā—L.—No. 470.
7. Acchodā—Rv.—No. 5.
8. „ —Rv.—Its source is the Acchodaka lake. (77. 76)
9. „ —Rv.—No. 470.
10. Acchodaka—L.—No. 8.
11. Acchodikā—Rv.—No. 470.
12. Agastyas—P.—A class of learned Brahmarākṣasas who were followers of Kubera in Hariśringa. (47. 60-1)
13. Āhukas—D.—No. 130 [Na reading is Bāhukas].



14. *Ajatunga*—Ti.—Where *tarpapa* to pits should always be performed. (77. 48)
15. *Ājivas*—P.—They were so called by Suras. They were irreligious, having been the issues of the contamination of castes (*varṇāśramasankarikāḥ*). Of such people—belonging to the class of artisans (*kāruṣilpijanāḥ*)—who were likewise thieves, who could not be trusted—the *Pisācas* were their deities. (69. 281-8)
16. *Alakā*—Cy. (?)—An extensive city (?) where *Purūravas* lived with *Urvaśī*. (91. 5-8)
17. *Alakā*—Cy. (?)—No. 470, 779.
18. *Alakanandā*—Rv.—No. 469 [Ga, Gha, Na : *Kanakanandā*].
19. „ —Rv.—No. 1022.
20. *Alimadras*—D.—No. 130.
21. *Amaladas* or *Āmaladas*?—D.—No. 130 [Gha reads *Maladas* and Ga, *Amalavas* or *Āmalavas*].
22. *Amarakaṇṭaka*—Mt.—This holy mountain is inhabited by *Siddhas* and *Cāraṇas*. There lord *Aṅgiras* practised penance for a thousand years. It is beyond the reach of death and demons (*asura-  
rakṣasām*). (It is located probably to the southern side of the river *Narmadā*). Here should *piṇḍas* be offered. To its south-east, situated in a mountain which forms half the boundary-line of *Kalīṅgadeśa*, is the *vāpī* (pond?) called *Sāvartā*. The great sages call it (?) a *Siddhakṣetra*. A verse by *Uśanas* says : “Blessed are they who having gone to *Amarakaṇṭaka* perform *śrāddha* there.” A little penance is sufficient here to achieve emancipation. Merely worshipping leads one to *svarga*. (77. 4-16)
23. *Amarapuri*—Cy.—No. 366.
24. *Amarāvati*—Cy.—By bathing in the river *Tāmraparṇī* one goes to *Amarāvati*, free from all mental and physical maladies. (77. 26)
25. *Amarāvati*—Cy.—By bathing (?) in the tirthas of *Śrīparvata* and of the *Vaikṛta* mountain one goes to *Amarāvati*. (77. 30)
26. *Amarāvati*—Cy.—Nos. 184, 826.
27. *Ambara-nadī*—Rv.—Falling from the peak of *Meru* and circum-ambulating it, it waters the *Devabhrāja* forest and enters the *Sitoda* lake. Then it passes along the *Supakṣa*, *Śikhi*, *Kaṅka* (*Kāka*), *Vaidūrya*, *Kapila*, *Gandhamādana*, *Piñjara*, *Sarasa*, *Kumuda*, *Madhumat*, *Mukuta*, *Kṛṣṇa*, *Śveta*, and *Sahasraśikhara* mountains and falls on the mount *Pārijāta*. Then watering through the *Ketumāladvīpa* of various *Mleccha* gaṇas it joins the western sea. (Cp. also No. 1022). (42. 43-57)
28. *Ambaranadī*—Rv.—No. 1022.
29. *Ambaṣṭhā*—Cy.—Belonging to *Suvrata*, son of *Uśīnara* of the *Yayāti* line [Ka : *Vṛṣṭā*]. (99. 22)
30. *Āmbikeya*—Mt.—No. 1100.

31. **Āmravana**—F.—Situating between the Viśākha and Pataṅga mountains, and to the east of Tāmravarṇa lake. There Gandharvas, Kinnaras, Yakṣas, Nāgas and Vidyādharas enjoy the drinks of mango-juice in such a way that their frolic is resounded in the forest. [ Ga has "Āmravaṇa". ] (36. 18-22)
32. **Amṛtā**—Rv.—No. 989 [ Ka omits this ].
33. **Anala**—Mt.—There Rākṣasas dwell. (39. 53)
34. **Ānandas**—Ja.—No. 989.
35. **Ānanda**—Rg.—No. 988 [ Kha, Gha : Ānalda ].
36.     "     Vr.—Nos. 988, 989.
37. **Ānandajala**—L.—No. 456 [ Gha, Na : Nandajala ].
38. **Ānārta**—Vr.—Saryāti had a son Ānārta or Anarta. His successor was Reva.  
   "     Rg.—To Reva the *viṣaya* Ānarta and its capital Kuśasthali belonged.
39. **Ānartas**—Ja.—No. 130 [ Ka reading is Anartas ].
40. **Andhakāraka**—D.—A deśa in Krauñcadvīpa called after Andhakāraka, son of Dyutimat, lord of that dvīpa [Kha, Gha omit this].
41. **Andhakāraka**—Vr.—No. 606.
42.     "     Mt.—No. 606.
43. **Āndhras**—Ja.—Will be ruled by Guha (after the Guptas ?) [ Andhras may well be the reading. ] (99. 385-6)
44. **Andhras**—Ja.—No. 130.
45. **Āndhras**—D.—A country inflicted with sin (*pāpa-deśa*). *Śiṣṭhas* and learned Brahmins do not go there. (78. 69-70)
46. **Andhrakas**—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki, when th's yuga will begin to close. [ Ka, Ga : Andhaka ]. (98. 103-8)
47. **Andhravākas**—Ja.—No. 470.
- 47a. **Aṅga**—D. ?—Janamejaya was Kharva (?) of the inhabitants of Aṅga. (99. 255)
48. **Aṅgas**—Rg.—Where people will take shelter at the end of the Kali age. (99. 402)
49. **Aṅgas**—Ja.—No. 470.
50.     "     —Ja.—A janapada called after Aṅga, son of King Bali. (99. 33)
51. **Aṅgadiyā**—Cy.—Situating in Kārapatha deśa near the Himalayas. Probably named after Aṅgada, son of Dāśarathi Lakṣmaṇa. (88. 188)
- 51a. **Aṅgadiyā**—Cy.—No. 524.
52. **Aṅgadvīpa**—Rg.—No. 437.
53. **Aṅgalokavaras** ?—D.—No. 470.
54. **Añjana**—Mt.—Situating to the west of Sitoda lake. (36. 26-29)
55.     "     —Mt.—No. 867, 1179.
56.     "     —Mt.—Inhabited by Mahoragas. (39. 59)

57. Antasilā—Rv.—No. 130.
- 57a. Anugaṅga—Ja.—Where descendants of Guptas will rule. [ Ga, Kha, Gha and Ōa : Anugaṅgā ]. (99. 383)
58. Anūpa—D.—King Pṛthu made a gift of Anūpadeśa to Sūta for his panegyric. (62. 147)
59. Anūpa—Ja.—No. 130. [ Aṇupa in another reading. ]
60. „ —Rg.—No. 888.
61. Anutaptā—Rv.—No. 989 [ Omitted in Ka. ]
- 61a. „ —Rv.—No. 1100.
62. Apagas—D.—No. 130.
63. Aparāntikas—P.—The Vindhyāparāntikas will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of this yuga. (98. 106–8)
64. Aparāntikas—P.—The Aparāntikas on the Vindhya plateau were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of Kali. (58. 75–81)
65. Aparītas—D.—No. 130.
66. Arbudas—Ja.—No. 130.
67. Arthapas—Ja.—No. 130. [ Ka reading dispenses with the name. ]
68. Aruṇa—Mt.—No. 470.
69. Aruṇāvati—Rv.—No. 108.
70. Aruṇoda—L.—No. 1022.
71. „ —L.—No. 1178.
72. Ārya—Ja.—No. 130.
73. Āryas—P.—No. 844.
- 73a. Asitā—Rv. ?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 39)
74. Asmakas—D.—No. 130.
75. Aśoka—Mt.—No. 569 [ Ga omits this name. ]
76. Asta—Mt.—No. 1100.
77. Aśvamukhas—D. ?—No. 470.
78. Aśvakamukhyas—D. ?—Janamejaya was Kharva (?) of the Aśvakamukhyas. (99. 255)
79. Atala—Rg.—No. 1048.
80. Āṭavyas—Ja.—No. 130.
81. Ātreyas—D.—No. 130.
82. Aṭṭhāsagiri—Mt.—Śiva in his Aṭṭhāśa incarnation will live on the Aṭṭhāsagiri of the Himalayas in 20th dvāpara (?). (23. 189–91)
83. Atyākārālojvālas—Ja.—No. 569.
84. Avantis—Ja.—No. 130.
85. Avantī—Rv.—No. 130.
86. Avanti—Cy.—Vatsa is called Āvantaka King. (99. 173)
87. Āvanti— ? ? (96. 157)
88. Ayodhyā—Cy.—Vasiṣṭha protected the kingdom of Ayodhyā when the king had retired to forest. (88. 94)
89. Ayodhyā—Cy.—King (name ?) of Ayodhyā alluded to. (88. 20)

90. Ayodhyā—King Divākara of Ikṣvaku line is 'now' ruling Ayodhyā city. (99. 282)
- 90a. Ayodhyā—Cy.—No. 345.
91. Bāhudā—Rv.—No. 130 [ Na reading is Bahudā. ]
92. Bakulā—Rv.—No. 569 [ Ga, Na : Bahulā ].
93. Balāhaka—Mt.—Submerged in the southern sea. (47. 75)
94. „ —Mt.—No. 1108.
95. Balārakas—P. ?—One of the four Pakṣas of men. Born in Atri gotra. [ Kha reading is Valgūraga. ] (70. 78)
96. Barbaras—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age. (98. 108)
97. Barbaras—P.—Pramiti annihilated them at the end of the Kali age. (58. 83)
98. Barbaras—P.—No. 842.
99. „ —D.—Nos. 130, 470.
100. Bhadra—F.—No. 765.
101. Bhadrā—Rv.—No. 569.
102. Bhadras—Dv.—One of the four mahādvīpas of the earth. (41. 85)
103. Bhadrākara—Dv.—To the west of Candradvīpa. It covers 10,000 yojanas in a round ; and Vāyu is worshipped there. (45. 61-5)
104. Bhadrakāras—Ja.—No. 130.
105. Bhadrasīmā—Rv.—Nos. 180, 660.
106. Bhadrasomā—Rv.—( This river forms the northern course of the river Puṇyodā—see Puṇyodā ). It originates from the Supārśva mountain—i. e. a mahāpāda of Meru—and joins the Mahābhadrā lake whence its name Bhadrasomā. Then it crosses the Śaṅkha-kūṭa, Vṛṣa, Vatsa, Nāgaśaila, Nila, Kapiñjala, Indranila, Mahānila, Hemaśṛṅga, Śveta, Sunaga, Śataśṛṅga, Puṣkara, Varāha, Mayūra, Jatudhī, Triśṛṅga and Vīrudha Mountains. Then it waters (the land of) Uttara Kurus and crossing the Mahādī(dvi)pa joins the northern sea. (42. 58.77)
- 106a. Bhadrasomā—Rv.—No. 660.
107. Bhadrāsvas—P.—No. 765.
108. Bhadrāsva—Dv.—There are five Kula-mountains in this dvīpa. They are : Saivāla, Varṇamālāgra, Korāñja, Śvetavarna and Nila. These mountains have their own innumerable branches. The janapadas of this dvīpa are : Sumaṅgalas, Śuddhas, Candrakāntas, Sunandanas, Vrajakas, Nilamauleyas, Sauviras, Vijaya-sthalas, Mahāsthalas, Sukāmas, Mahākeśas, Sumūrdhajas, Vātaramhas, Sopasaṅgas, Parivāyas, Parācakas, Saṁbhavaktras, Mahānetras, Saivālas, Tanapas, Kumudas, Śākamuṇḍas, Uraḥsāṁkīrṇabhaumakas, Sodakas, Vatsakas, Caikas (?), Vārāhas, Hāravāmakas, Śaṅkhākhyas, Bhāvimandras, Uttarās (?), Haimabhaumakas, Kṛṣṇabhaumas, Subhaumas, and Mahābhaumas.

- The rivers in this dvīpa are ; Śītā, Cakrā, Vaktrā, Kāśī, Surasā, Śākhāvatī (?), Indranadī, Meghā, Maṅgāravāhinī, Kāveri, Haritoyā, Somāvartā, Vanamālā, Vasumatī, Pampā, Pampāvatī, Suvarṇā, Pañcavarṇā, Vapuṣmatī, Maṇivaprā, Suvaprā, Brahma-bhāgā, Śilāśinī, Kṣapatoyā, Puṇyodā, Nāgapadī, Śaivālinī, Maṇitaṭā, Kṣārodā, Aruṇāvatī, Viṣṇupadī, Hiraṇyavāhinī, Skandamālā, Surāvatī, Vamodā, Patākā and Vetālī.
109. Bhandrāśva—Dv.—Nos. 232, 819, 1022.  
 110. „ —Rg.—No. 818.  
 111. Bhāgīrathī—Rv.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 92-3)  
 112. „ —Rv.—King Bhagīratha with his own efforts 'brought' her and that is why the knowers of varṇā call the river Bhāgīrathī. (88. 169)  
 113. Bhāgīrathī—Rv.—Nos. 306, 470.  
 114. Bhakṣas—P.—One of the 15 pakṣas of Aṅgīrasas. (65. 107)  
 115. Bhakṣyakas—P.—They will be ruled over by one named Kanaka. [ Kha, Ga, Ņa : Bhokṣyakas ]. (99. 387)  
 116. Bhānukacchas—Ja.—No. 130. [ Gha, Ņa reading is Bhārukaccha ].  
 117. Bharadvājas—D.—No. 130.  
 118. Bhāradvājas—P.—One of the 15 pakṣas of Aṅgīrasas. (65. 106)  
 119. „ —P.—Belong to the same stock as the Aṅgīrasas. (65. 97)  
 120. Bharata—D.—No. 818.  
 121. Bharatas—Dv.—One of the four mahādvīpas of the earth. (41. 85)  
 122. „ —Ja.—No. 470.  
 123. Bhārata—Vr.—Bhārata and other varṣas are described ( in the Vāyu Purāṇa ) with their rivers and mountains. (1. 87)  
 124. Bhārata—Vr.—There are four yugas in Bhārata varṣa. (24. 1)  
 125. „ —Vr.—The southern varṣa called Himāhva was assigned to Bharata by his father Ṛṣabha; and that is why this varṣa is known by the learned as Bhāratavarṣa. (33. 51-2)  
 126. Bhārata—Vr.—Śatajit had hundred sons who were all of them rājānah. They divided this Bhārata varṣa into seven Khaṇḍas. [ The expression 'into seven Khaṇḍas' is not found in Ņa. ] (33. 60-1).  
 127. Bhārata—Vr.—This Haimavata varṣa ( i. e. varṣa with the Himavat mountain at its north ? ) is known by the name Bhārata. (34. 28)  
 128. Bhārata—Vr.—Of the Bhārata varṣa there are nine divisions. (47. 78)  
 129. Bhārata—Vr.—There are four yugas in Bhārata-varṣa. (57. 22)  
 130. Bhārata—Vr.—There are fourteen Manus ( Svāyambhuva and others ) in this Bhārata varṣa. The Paurāṇika sūta Lomahaṇṣa narrates its *nīṣarga* ( physical features ) thus :—I will enumerate the janapadas scattered about in this holy land ( puṇyatīrtha )

which is to the south of Himavat mountain. It is in the centre, to the north of the sea and to the south of the Himavat mountain. Manu is called Bharata as he supported the people ; hence etymologically (*niruktavacanāt*) this varṣa is called Bhārata. There *svarga*, *mokṣa*, the middle and the end are known ; indeed nowhere else do mortals know *harman*.

This varṣa is divided into nine subdivisions, separated by seas and inaccessible to each other. These subdivisions are : Indradvīpa, Kaseru, Tāmravarṇī, Gabhastimān (?), Nāgadvīpa, Saumya (?), Gandharva, Vāruṇa and (?). This ninth dvīpa (?), amongst them, is surrounded by sea. It is 1000 yojanas north-south, extending from Kumarikya to the source of the river Gaṅgā. It is 9000 yojanas (? cf. *tiryaguttara*). Its frontiers are always inhabited by Mlecchas—to the east are the Kirātas and to the western extremity the Yavanas. The Brāhmaṇas, Kṣatriyas and Vaiśyas live in the centre with Śūdras scattered about. They follow their particular avocations, namely sacrifice, war and trade. He who conquers the whole of this ninth dvīpa is called the *Samrāt* (paramount lord or emperor). This *loka* is *Samrāt*, the *antarikṣa* is called *Virāt*, while another *loka* is called *Svarāt*.

There are seven Kula mountains in this varṣa, e.g., Mahendra, Malaya, Sahya, Śuktimat, Ṛkṣa, Vindhya, and Pāriyātra which have their own innumerable branches, e.g., Mandara, Vaihāra, Dardura, Kolāhala, Sasurasa, Maināka, Vaidyuta, Pātamdhamā, Pāṇḍura, Kṛṣṇa, Gantuprastha, Godhana, Puṣpagi, Yuj, Jayanta, Raivataka, Śrī, Kāru, and Kūṭasāila. 'Mixed' (*vimiśrāḥ*) with them are the various Arya and Mleccha janapadas drinking the waters of the rivers : Gaṅgā, Sindhu, Sarasvatī, Śatadru, Candrabhāgā, Yamunā, Sarayū, Irāvati, Vitastā, Vipāsā, Devikā, Kuhū, Gomati, Bāhudā, Dṛṣadvatī, Kauśiki, Niścīrā, Gaṇḍakī, Ikṣu, and Lohritā which flow from the Himavat mountain. Those flowing from Pāriyātra mountain are : Vedasmṛti, Vedavatī, Vṛtraghnī, Sindhu, Varṇāśā, Candanā, Satirā, Mahatī (?), Parā (?), Carmaṇvatī, Vidiśā, Vetravatī, Śiprā, and Avantī. From the Ṛkṣa mountain flow the following rivers : Śoṇa, Narmadā, Mandākinī, Daśārṇā, Citrakūṭā, Tamasā, Pippalā, Śroṇī, Karatoyā, Piśācīkā, Nilotpālā, Vipāsā, Jambulā, Siterajā, Śuktimatī, Makruṇā, and Tridivā. Those that flow from the Vindhya are : Tāpī, Payoṣṇī, Nirbandhyā, Madrā, Niṣadhā, Venvā, Vaitaraṇī, Śitibāhu, Kumudvatī, Toyā, Mahāgaurī, Durgā, and Antaśilā. These rivers of the Dakṣiṇāpatha flow from the Sahya mountain : Godāvari, Bhīmarathī, Kṛṣṇā, Vairī, Vajjulā, Tuṅgabhadrā,

Suprayogā, and Kāverī. Those flowing from the Malaya mountain are : Kṛtamālā, Tāmravarṇī, Puṣpajāti, and Utpalāvati. The rivers Trisāmā, Rtukūlyā, Ikṣulā, Tridivā, Laṅgūlinī, and Varṇasādhārā are the 'daughters' of the Mahendra mountain. The rivers Rṣikā, Sukumārī, Mandagā, Kūpā and Palāśini flow from the Śuktimat mountain. All of them are holy and join the sea ; and they have their own innumerable tributaries.

The janapadas of the madhyadeśa, to wit, are : Kurus, Pāñcālas, Śāilvas, Sajāṅgalas, Śūrasenas, Bhadrakāras, Bodhas, Śatapathēśvaras, Vatsas, Kisaṇṇas, Kulyas, Kuntalas, Kāśikośālas, Arthapas, Tilāṅgas, Magadhas, and Vṛkas. The place in the northern half of the Sahya mountain whence the Godāvarī flows is a charming site on this earth ; here did the king of gods create the Govardhana for the good of Rāma (?).

The northern deśas are : Vāhlikas, Vāṭadhānas, Ābhīras, Kālatoyakas, Aparītas, Sūdras, Pahnavaś, Carmakhaṇḍikas, Gāndhāras, Yavanas, Sindhu-sauvīra-Bhadrakas, Śakas, Hradas, Kulindas, Parītas, Hārapūrikas, Ramatas, Raddhakatakas Kekayas, Daśamānikas, Kāmbojas, Daradas, Barbaras, Pinas, Tusāras, Pahlavas, Ātreyas, Bharadvājas, Prasthalas, Kaserukas, Lampākas, Stanapas, Piḍikas, Juhvās, Apagas, Alimadras, the various classes (*jātayah*) or Kirātas, Tomaras, Harṣamārgas, Kāśmīras, Taṅgaṇas, Cūlikas, Āhukas and Pūrṇadarvas.

The eastern countries (*deśāḥ*) are : Andhravākas, Sujarakas, Pravaṅgas, Vaṅgeyas, Amaladas, Mālavartins, Brahmottaras, Pravijayas, Bhārgavas, Prāgjyotiṣas, Muṇḍas, Videhas, Tāmraliptakas, Mālas and Magadha-Govindas.

The janapadas of the Dakṣiṇāpatha are : Pāṇḍyas, Keralas, Caulyas, Kulyas, Setukas, Mūṣīkas, Kumanas, Mahārāṣṭras, Māhiṣakas, Kaliṅgas, Abhīras, Sahacaiṣīkas (?), Ātavyas, Varas, Pulindas, Vindhyamūlikas, Vaidarbhas, Daṇḍakas, Paunikas, Maunikas, Asmakas, Bhogavardhanas, Nairnikas, Kuntalas, Andhras, Udbhidas, and Nalakālikas.

The other countries (*dākṣiṇātyāḥ deśāḥ*) are : Śūrpārakas, Kolavanas, Durgas, Kālītakas, Puleyas, Surālas, Rūpasas, Tāpasas, and Turasitas. All these are Parakṣaras (?). The Nāśikyādyas (i.e. Nāśikyas and others), Antara-Narmadas (i.e. about the river Narmadā), Bhānukacchas, Samāheyas (?), Kacchiyas, Surāṣṭras, Ānartas and Arbudas—all these are *samparitāḥ* (?).

The inhabitants of the Vindhya are : Mālavas, Karūṣas, Rokalas, Utkalas, Uttamārṇas, Daśārṇas, Bhojas, Kiṣkindhakas, Tosalas, Kosalas, Traipuras, Vaidikas, Tumuras, Tumburas, Śaṭsuras, Niṣadhas, Anūpas, Tuṇḍikeras, Vītihotras, and

Avantis—All these janapadas occupy the plateau of the Vindhya.

The other deśas sheltered by the mountains are : Nigarharas, Haṁsamārgas, Kṣupaṇas, Taṅganas, Khasas, Kuśapṛavaṇas, Hūṇas, Darvas, Sahūdakas, Trigartas, Mālavas, Kirātas and Tāmasas.

131. Bhārati—Rv.—No. 569 [ Omitted in Gha ].
132. Bhārgavas—D.—No. 130.
133. Bhāvīmāndras—Ja.—No. 108.
134. Bhīmā—Rv.—No. 569.
135. Bhīmarathī—Rv.—No. 130.
136. Bhogavardhanas—Ja.—No. 130.
137. Bhojas—Ja.—No. 130.
138. Bhramaras—Ja.—No. 569. [ Na reading is Bhrāmaras. ]
139. Bhramaras—Ja.—No. 470. [ Another reading is Bhramaṭas. ]
140. Bhṛguṣ—P.—With Ādityas, Maruts, etc. (10. 71)
141. „ —P.—Their expansion is narrated in the Purāṇa. (1. 137)
142. Bhṛgutuṅga—H.—A peak of the Himavat mountain, named after Bhṛgu. Four sons of Śiva will reside there in the tenth Dvāpara. (23. 148)
143. Bhṛgutuṅga—H.—After ascending the Bhṛgutuṅga one goes to the holy river Sarasvatī. (79. 20)
144. Bhṛgutuṅga—H.—In Bhṛgutuṅga king Yayāti practised penance after his retirement from kingship. (93. 102)
145. Bhṛgutuṅga—H.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 82)
146. Bilva—F.—It is to the east of the Śrī lake. This Bilva-vana is also known by the name of Śrī-vana. It is situated in the valleys between the Śītānta and Kumuṇja mountains. It is 100 × 300 yojanas in extent. (37. 1-15)
147. Bilva—St.—It is situated between Samūla and Vasudhāra mountains. There Yakṣas, Gandharvas, Kinnaras, Siddhas, Nāgas, etc. live on bilva fruits. It is 100 × 800 yojanas in extent. (38. 23-6)
148. Bindusaras—L.—No. 470.
149. Bodhas—Ja.—No. 130.
150. Brahmabhāgā—Rv.—No. 108.
151. Brahmakṣetra—Kṣ.—Visnu is born as man at Brahmakṣetra in the end of yuga. (97. 4-5)
152. Brahmakṣetra—Kṣ.—This great tīrtha was founded by Brahmā in former times. It is the same as Kurukṣetra (?). There gods, sages and munis dwell. (59. 106-7)
153. Brahmakuṇḍa—T.—Holy for śrāddha. (82. 20)
154. Brahmarakṣasas—P.—A class of Rakṣasas, known after their maternal uncle Brahmarākṣa (?). (69. 133-4)



155. Bhahmatīrtha—T.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 55)
156. Brahmatuṅga—H.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 82)
157. Brahmatuṅghrada—T. „ (77. 71)
158. Brahmavedī—?— „ (82. 20)
159. Brāhmī—Rv.—No. 569 [Omitted in Gha].
160. Brahmottaras—D.—No. 130.
161. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
162. Caitraratha—F.—It is in the east of (?) where gods have their play-houses (*kṛīḍanakāni*). (36. 10-1)
163. Citraratha—F.—Here Purūravas enjoyed with Urvaśī. (91. 6-8)
- 163a. „ „ —Nos. 470, 779.
164. Cakrā—Rv.—No. 108.
165. Cakragiri—Mt.—No. 437.
166. Cakṣu—Rv.—No. 470.
167. Campā—Cy.—The descendants of the Guptas will rule over the lovely city of Campā, protected by gods. (99. 385)
168. Campaka—F.—It is situated between Vikaṅka and Maṇisāila mountains. It is 100 × 200 yojanas in area. There Devas, Dānavas, Gandharvas, Kinnaras, etc. dwell. The hermitage of Kaśyapa is also to be found there. (37. 16-22)
169. Campāvati—Rv.—No. 569 [Omitted in Gha].
170. „ —Campā was the son of king Prthulāśva. The city (founded by him?) was Campāvati (or Campā). It was inhabited by the four varṇas [Gha, Ņa omit this]. (99. 105-6)
171. Campāvati—Cy.—This city will be ruled by the Navanākas. (99. 382)
172. Candanā—Rv.—No. 130.
173. Candra—Mt.—No. 989.
174. Chandrā—Rv.—No. 1108.
175. Candrabhāgā—Rv.—The river loved by Fire (*Havyavāhana*) [Omitted in Ņa]. (29. 13)
176. Candrabhāga—Rv.—No. 770.
177. „ „ No. 130.
178. Candradvīpa—Dv.—Nos. 103, 660.
179. Candrakāṅka—Mt.—It is sub-merged in the northern sea. (47. 73)
180. Candrakānta—Mt.—In between the Candrakānta and Sūryakānta mountain ranges. In the Uttarakuruvarṣa passes the river Bhadrasīmā. (45. 25)
- 180A. Candrakānta—Mt.—No. 660.
181. Candrakāntas—Ja.—No. 108.
182. Candraprabha—H.—No. 470.
183. Candrasāila—Mt.—
184. Candratīrtha—T.—A holy tīrtha at the source of the river Kāverī, where those who die go immediately to Amarāvati. [Ka, Ga, Gha and Ņa omit this.] (77. 28)

185. Candravaktrā—Cy.—The capital (?) city of Candraketu, son of Dāśarathi Lakṣmaṇa. It was situated in a deśa (named Kārapatha ?) at the foot of the Himavat mountain. (88. 187-8)
186. Candrāvartā—Rv.—No. 660.
- 186a. Candrāvati—Rv.—No. 569. [Omitted in Gha.]
187. Carakas—P. ?—A branch of the followers of Yajurveda. (61. 24)
188. Carmakhaṇḍikas—D.—No. 130.
189. Carmanvati—Rv.—No. 130.
190. Caulyas—Ja.—No. 130.
191. Cedi—Rg.—Vasu mentioned as Cedipati. (93. 26)
192. (Cedi)—Rg. (?)—Cidi was son of Kauśika of the Kroṣtu line. After him his descendants were known as Caidyas. (95. 37-8)
193. (Cedi)—Rg.—Śiśupāla is mentioned as Caidya. (96. 157)
194. Chāgala—Mt.—It is on the peak of the Himavat (?) where the four disciples of Śiva will reside. (23. 116)
195. Cīnas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. [Gha reads Cānyān instead of Cīnān, thus dispensing with the name of a tribe or people.] (58. 78-83)
196. Cīnas—D.—No. 470.
197. Cīnamarus—D.—No. 470.
198. Citrakūṭa—Rv.—No. 130.
199. Cola—Ja.—Cola was the son of Janāpiḍa of Turvasu line. After him the Janapada was known as Cola. (99. 5-6)
- 199a. Colas—P.—No. 345.
200. Cūlikas—D.—No. 130.
201. Dadhimaṇḍodaka—S.—No. 1100.
202. „ —S.—
203. Dakṣā—Rv.—No. 569.
204. Dakṣiṇa—Rg.—Śankhapada was descendant the of the Prajāpati Pulaha. He loved the south. (It is doubtful whether by the 'south' here we should understand a particular geographical area.) (28. 28)
205. Dakṣiṇāpara—Rg.—This was the region assigned to Yadu by his father Yayāti. (93. 89)
206. Dakṣiṇāpatha—Rg.—Nos. 130, 886.
207. Dakṣiṇapūrva—Rg.—This region was assigned to Turvasu by his father Yayāti. (93. 89)
208. Dākṣiṇātyas—D.—No. 130.
209. Dākṣiṇātyas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 82)
210. Dākṣiṇātyas—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of this Kali age. (98. 107)
211. Daṇḍā—Rv.—No. 569.
212. Daṇḍakas—Ja.—No. 130.

213. Daradas—D.—No. 130.  
 214. „ —Ja.—No. 470<sup>a</sup>.  
 215. Daradas—Ja.—No. 842.  
 216. „ —P. ?—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 83)  
 217. Daradas—P. They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of this Kali age. (98. 108)  
 218. Darbhāvati—Rv.—No. 569.  
 219. Dardura—Mt.—No. 130.  
 220. Darvas—D.—No. 130.  
 220a. Dārvas—P.—No. 345.  
 221. Daṣamānikas—D.—No. 130.  
 222. Daśārṇā—Rv.—Nos. 130, 477.  
 223. Daśārṇā—Rv.—Kalañjara, on the river Daśārṇā is holy for śrāddha purposes. (77. 9)  
 224. Daśārnas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 225. Devabhrāja—F.—No. 27.  
 226. Devadāru—F.—The place where Śiva will reside in his incarnation of Dārūka in 21st dvāpara will be known as Devadāruvana. (23. 195)  
 227. Devadāru—F.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 91)  
 228. Devakūta—Mt.—Inhabited by Garuḍas. (69. 332)  
 229. Devakūta—Mt.—Here is a place of the birth of Vainateya Suparna. This place covers an area of 100 (square ?) yojanas. Many kinds of birds and Garuḍas live here. There is also a mansion of the king of birds, the inhabitant of Śālmalidvīpa.  
 Again there are seven cities of the Āgneya Gandharvas, who are the followers of Kubera, on this mountain. [This portion re : the cities of Gandharvas is omitted in Ga.]  
 On its northern summit is the city of Saimbhūkeyas, the enemies of Devas. There is also a city of Kālakeya Asuras. This city is known as Sunāsa. It covers 60 × 100 yojanas and is difficult of access.  
 On its southern peak is the city of Autkaca Rākṣasas covering an area of 20 × 62 yojanas. On the central summit is the mansion (or temple, cf. *āyatana*) called Bhūtavata of lord Mahādeva. There Bhūtas, gods, sages, Gandharvas etc. are forever worshipping the lord Bhūtapati.  
 230. Devakūta—Mt.—No. 819.  
 231. „ Mt.—No. 1022.  
 232. „ Mt.—To the east of this mountain is the Bhadrāśva dvīpa. (43. 12)  
 233. Devaputa—Cy.— ? (89. 1)  
 234. Devaśṛṅga—H.—No. 1022,

235. Devikā—Rv.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 41)  
 235a. „ Rv.—No. 130.  
 236. Dhārā—Cy.(?)—In the holy Vindhya mountain the virtuous see not the stream of sin but Dhārā. (77. 34)  
 237. Dhātaki—Rg.—It is a name of a Khaṇḍa after Dhātaki, son of Savana, lord of Puṣkaradvīpa. [Kha, Gha and Na : Dhātuki.] (33. 15)  
 238. Dhātakī—Rg.—No. 1027.  
 239. Dhenukā—Rv.—No. 1100.  
 240. Dhīvaras—Ja.—No. 470.  
 241. „ P.—No. 576.  
 242. Dhṛtimat—Vr.—No. 673.  
 243. „ Vr.—No. 674.  
 244. Dhruva—Vr.—No. 989.  
 245. „ Vr.—No. 988.  
 246. Dhruvas—Ja.—No. 989.  
 247. Dhūmajas—Ja.—No. 569.  
 248. Dhūmra—Mt.—It is sub-merged in the eastern sea. (47. 71-2)  
 249. Dhūtapāpā—Rv.—No. 674.  
 250. Divāvṛta—Mt.—No. 605.  
 251. Divinda—Mt.—No. 606.  
 252. Draviḍas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 82)  
 253. Draviḍas—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age. (98. 107)  
 254. Drona—Mt.—No. 1108.  
 255. Dr̥ṣadvatī—Rv.—The sages performed sacrificial session at the holy place of Kurukṣetra on the banks of the holy river Dr̥ṣadvatī. (1. 14)  
 256. Dr̥ṣadvatī—Rv.—Its original name was Ratnāvati but in the Kali age it is known by the name Dr̥ṣadvatī. The Vāyupura is on its bank. (59. 127-8)  
 257. Dr̥ṣadvatī—RV.—No. 669.  
 258. „ —RV.—No. 130.  
 259. Druhas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 260. Dundubhi—D.—No. 608.  
 261. „ —Mt.—It is sub-merged in the eastern sea. (47. 71-2)  
 262. „ —Mt.—No. 989.  
 263. Dundubhisvana—Mt.—No. 606.  
 264. „ —Vr.—No. 606.  
 265. Durgā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 266. Durgas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 267. Dvārakā—Cy.—Kṛṣṇa was absent from Dvārakā as he had been to the city of Vāraṇāvata to perform the obsequial ceremonies

for the Paṇḍavas (who were supposed to have been burnt to death in the *lākṣāgrha*). In the meanwhile Bhoja Śatadhanvan killed Bhadrakāra (or Bhaṅgakāra) and besieged the city of Dvārakā. The *syamantaka* jewel was with Akrūra who had fled away. Kṛṣṇa received the news of what had happened in his absence and he pursued Bhoja Śatadhanvan to his capital Mithilā and killed him. But the jewel could not be secured at which Rāma grew angry and refused to leave the city of Mithilā. It was at this time that king Duryodhana came to Mithilā and learned the art of wielding the gadā from Rāma. After many entreaties Rāma came back to Dvārakā. (96. 60-84)

268. Dvāravatī—Cy.—In the episode of the jewel Syamantaka those who were with Kṛṣṇa in their search for Prasena went back to Dvāravatī thinking that Kṛṣṇa was killed in the cave into which he had gone and had not returned for a long time. (96. 46)
269. Dvāravatī Cy.—When Akrūra came back to the famine-stricken city of Dvāravatī there was again rainfall and plenty. (96. 89-90)
270. Dvāravatī—Cy.—It was inhabited by the Yādavas. It had many gates and was protected by Bhojas, Vṛṣṇis and Andhakas with Vasudeva (or Vāsudeva) as their leader. (86. 27-8)
- 270A. Dyutimat—Mt.—Nos. 437, 674.
271. Ekākṣā—Rv.—No. 569. [Omitted in Gha.]
272. Ekaśrṅga—Mt.—No. 820.
273. Gābhastala—Rg. (?)—No. 1048.
274. Gābhastimat—Rg.—No. 130.
275. Gajāśaila—Mt.—No. 820.
276. „ —Mt.—There the Rudras reside. (39. 47)
277. Gaṇḍakī—Rv.—No. 130.
278. Gandhamādana—Mt.—The four sons of Śiva will reside in the Vāli(la)khilyāśrama on the Gandhamādana mountain in the 13th dvāpara. (23. 159)
279. Gandhamādana—Mt.—Nos. 779, 823.
280. „ —Mt.—No. 818.
281. „ —Mt.—No. 819.
282. „ —Mt.—No. 27.
283. Gandhamādana—Mt. (?) —On one side of the Gaṇḍhamādana (mountain?) is a vast gaṇḍikā (plain?) 32000 × 34000 yojanas in area. There the people are called Ketumālas (?). There is also a heavenly tree of Panasa of six *rasas*. (43. 1-4)
284. Gandhamādana—Mt.—No. 1022.
285. „ —Mt.—There Purūravas enjoyed with Urvaśī. (91. 6-8)
286. „ —F.—No. 1022.
287. „ —Vr.—No. 434.

288. Gāndhāras—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age. (98. 106-9)
289. Gāndhāras—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 78-83)
290. Gāndhāra—Vṣ.—Bharata, son of Daśaratha, had two sons, Takṣa and Puṣkara. Their respective capital cities were Takṣaśilā and Puṣkarāvati which were situated in the Gāndhāra-*viṣaya*, (88. 188-90)
291. Gāndhāra—Vṣ.—Gandhāra was a son of Aruddha, a descendant of Yayāti. After him is the Gāndhāra-*viṣaya* so called. (99. 9-10)
292. Gāndhāra—D.—The horses of the Gāndhāra-*deśa* are the best of their species. (99. 10)
293. Gāndhāras—Ja.—No. 130.
294. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
295. Gandharva—Rg.—No. 130.
- 295a. Gandharva—Ja.—No. 470.
296. Gaṅgā—Rv.—No. 606.
297. „ Rv.—It is the best of rivers and is the source of waters of all the tīrthas. In the holy region at the source of this river on the Himavat mountain Dakṣa started performing a sacrifice which led to the incident of the Dakṣa-Śiva conflict. (30. 92 ff.)
298. Gaṅgā—Rv.—This river once flooded the place (*deśa*) where king Jahnu was performing a sacrifice. The enraged king drank the whole stream. (The gods and sages appear to have appealed to the king to let the stream flow again.) Thence is the river called Jahnavī, i.e., daughter of Jahnu. The water of the river is said to be yellow (*pīta*); [but this sense is dispensed with by the readings of Kha and Ga]. (91. 54-60)
299. Gaṅgā—? —Gaṅgā bore the garbha (of Urvaśī?). (2. 17)
300. „ Rv.—It is the best of rivers, being also the wife of Lavaṇōdadhi (i.e. sea) [Omitted in Na]. (30. 32)
301. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Śiva is praised as being Gaṅgātōyārdra (wet with the water of Gaṅgā). (30. 225)
302. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Śiva's hair [body according to Gha] were dishavelled by the water of (the river) Gaṅgā. (54. 97)
303. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 68)
304. „ Rv.—Holy for śrāddha [Gayā according to Ka, Ga and Na]. (77. 96)
305. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 117)
306. „ Rv.—The Paurāṇika quotes a stanza which says that those versed in genealogies tell that Gaṅgā is called Bhāgrathi because King Bhagratha made successful efforts to make it flow down on the earth. (88. 168-9)

307. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Pramiti perished (*niṣṭhām prāptaḥ*) in the region between Gaṅgā and Yamunā. (58. 88)
308. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Kali will perish (*niṣṭhām prāpsyati*) in the region between the rivers Gaṅgā and Yamunā. (98. 117)
309. Gaṅgā—Rv.—Nos. 130, 839, 867, 989, 1022.
310. „ Rv.—Nos. 470, 1256.
311. „ Rv.—No. 607.
312. „ Rv.—No. 708.
313. „ Rv.—No. 770.
314. „ Rv.—No. 817.
315. Gantuprastha—Mt.—130.
316. Gaura—Mt.—No. 470.
317. Gaurī—Rv.—No. 606.
318. Gautama—F.—Sons of Śiva will reside in the Gautama forest in the Kali age (i.e. in the 14th dvāpara age?). (23. 163)
319. Gautamas—P.—They belonged to the stock of Aṅgirasas. (65. 97)
- 319a. Gayā—(See Introduction.)
320. „ Tl. ?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 97)
321. „ Tl.—Very meritorious for śrāddha. One who offers śrāddha in Gayā in the middle of the year gets everything he desires, and is respected in the heaven, etc. [This portion is omitted in Kha.] (82. 14-42)
322. Gayā—Tl.—Holy for śrāddha [Omitted in Kha]. (82. 43)
323. Ghṛtoda—S.—No. 674.
324. Ghṛtodaka—S.—No. 606.
325. Girivraja—Cy.—The son of Śiśunāka will occupy Girivraja on (the river) Vārāṇasī. (99. 315)
326. Girivraja—Cy.—Sahadeva of Magadha was killed in the Bhārata war. His son Somādhi ruled in Girivraja for 58 years. (99. 296)
327. Godāvara—Tl. ?—Bathing at Saptagodāvara is equal in merits to performance of aśvamedha. (77. 19)
328. Godāvarī—Rv.—Agni (Havyavāhana) loved her. [Omitted in Na.] (29. 12-4)
329. Godāvarī—Rv.—No. 130.
330. Godāvas—Ja.—No. 559.
331. Godhana—Mt.—No. 130.
332. Gokarṇa—F.—By bathing here a sinner gets rid of all his sins and attains merits of aśvamedha. Here did Maheshvara practise penance. Here do *vīpras* preach the tenets of the atheists (*nāstikānām*). If a non-Brahmin recites Sāvitrī here he is bound to face destruction. The place is beautiful with sandalwood trees and the river Tāmraparṇī has its source here. (77. 19-24)

333. Gokarṇa—F.—The sons of Śiva will reside in the Gokarṇa forest in the 16th dvāpara. [Omitted in Gha.] (23. 172)
334. Gokarṇa—F. ?—No. 437.
335. Gomanuṣyas—Ja.—No. 569. [Omitted in Gha.]
336. Gomati—Rv. ?—Nos. 130, 1403.
337. Gomedā—Vr.—No. 989.
338. Gomedaka—Mt.—No. 989.
339. Govardhana—Mt. ?—No. 130. [Omitted in Ga and Gha.]
340. Gṛdhrakūṭa—H.—Holy for śrāddha. In an area covering five yojanas around this place there is (always?) snowfall. (77. 97)
341. Guhyakas—P.—Nos. 470, 817.
342. „ —P.—The Yakṣa Rajatanābha was their pitāmaha. He had married a daughter of the Daitya Anuhrāda and had a son named Maṇivara. (69. 151)
343. Guhyakas—P.—They were the descendants of Maṇivara. They are described both as handsome and crooked; and are also mentioned as Yakṣas. (69. 162)
344. Guhyakas—P.—They are called Rākṣasas as are called also the Yakṣas. They were inferior to Gandharvas by three degrees (pādaiḥ) but are equal to Yakṣas. (69. 194–201)
345. Haihayas—P.—King Bāhu of Ayodhyā was deprived of his kingdom by the Haihayas, Tālajāṅghas, Sakas, Yavanas, Kāmbojas, Pāradas and Pahlavas. But his son Sagara vanquished them and made them captives. But, on his preceptor's advice, he set them free under pain of certain indignities. He also vanquished Kalisparśas, Māhiśikas, Dārvas, Colas and Khaṣas. (88. 121–42)
346. Haimabhaumakas—Ja.—No. 108.
- 346a. Haimavata—Vr.—No. 127.
347. Hairaṇvatī ?—Rv.—No. 406.
348. Haṁsa—Mt.—No. 713.
349. Haṁsamārgas—D.—No. 130.
350. „ —D.—No. 470.
351. Hārapūrikas—D.—No. 130.
352. Hāravāmakas—Ja.—No. 108. [Ga and Gha and Na : Harivāmakas.]
353. Hari—Mt.—No. 569.
354. Hari—Vr.—All the people here are refugees from the Deva-lōka. Their appearance is as those of Devas. They relish the sugarcane juice. Each of them enjoys a life of 11,000 years. They are all happy without any fear of old age. (46. 8–10)
355. Harigiri—Mt.—No. 674.
356. Harivarṣa—Vr.—Nos. 434, 818.
357. Harikūṭa—H.—God Hari resides here. (39. 58)
358. Harita—Vr.—No. 1108.



359. Harita—Vr.—No.:1107.
360. Haritas—P.—One of the fifteen *pakṣas* of Aṅgirasas. (65. 107)
361. Haritoyā—Rv.—No. 108.
362. Haryasvas—P.—They were the sons of Dakṣa. They were brought to ruin by Nārada. (65. 139-50)
363. Hastināpura—Cy.—Hastin was a son of Subotra, a descendant of Daśyanti Bharata. He founded the city of Hastināpura. (99. 165)
364. Hayaśiras—T.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 46)
365. Hema—Mt.—No. 674.
366. Hemakakṣa—Mt.—On this mountain is a city of the Gandharvas like the eighty cities of gods with big ramparts and gates. There the war-like Gandharvas, by name Apattana, with their chief Kapiñjala dwell. (39. 51-2)
367. Hemakūṭa—Mt.—This *varṣaparvata* is described in Vāyu. (1. 85).
368. Hemakūṭa—Mt.—There the Garuḍas reside.
369. „ —Mt.—This mountain is to the south of...(?). To the north or south (?) of the Himavat is the well-known city of Puṇḍra. (51. 48).
370. Hemakūṭa—Mt.—The Sāyana lake is situated on the Hemakūṭa. (47. 63)
371. Hemakūṭa—Mt.—Gandharvas and Apsarasas live here. (46. 33)
372. „ —Mt.—Nos. 812, 818, 1022.
373. „ —Mt.—No. 435.
374. „ —Vr.—No. 434.
375. Hemaśṛṅga—Vr.—On it is the abode of the great Prajāpati, the four-faced Brahmā. (39. 46)
376. Hemaśṛṅga—Mt.—No. 106.
377. Himāhva—Vr.—No. 434. [ Kha : Himāda. ]
378. „ —Vr.—No. 125.
379. „ —Vr.—No. 470.
380. Himavat—Mt.—The Śaravaṇa is in the corner (kukṣi) of the Himavat mountain. (72. 32).
381. Himavat—Mt.—On its peak the Viśvedevas practised penance. Here do Gandharvas and gods dwell with Apsarasaa. The Pitṛs were pleased with the penance of the Viśvedevas and asked them to demand any boons. (76. 1-7)
382. Himavat—Mt.—At the end of the Kali age people will fly to the Himavat mountain for shelter. (99. 403)
383. Himavat—Mt.—1080 (?) yojanas in extent. It is also rich in various minerals. (77. 114)
384. Himavat—Mt.—On the Chāgala hill (?) in its peak will reside the four disciples devoted to Śiva. (23. 116)

385. Himavat—Mt.—In the 15th dvāpara, there will be a mountain called Vedaśiṛṣa on the Himavat. On the Sarasvatī hill (a branch of this mountain ?) will dwell the sons of Śiva. (The sense is very confusing here.) (23. 168-9)
386. Himavat—Mt.—On the peak of the Himavat is the Jaṭṭyū mountain where the sons of Śiva will reside in the 19th dvāpara. (23. 186-7)
387. Himavat—Mt.—On the Aṭṭahāsa range (?) of the Himavat the sons of Śiva will reside in the 20th (dvāpara ?). (23. 191-2)
388. Himavat—Mt.—The Mahāpuruṣa created by Śiva was like the Himādri. (30. 130)
389. Himavat—Mt.—It is called a varṣapārvata. (1. 85)
390. Himavat—Mt.—The Agniṣvāta Pitṛs gave their daughter Menā to Himavat. (30. 31)
391. Himavat—Mt.—It extends north-south and east-west right upto the sea (?). (35. 9)
392. Himavat—Mt.—Śiva in his incarnation of Guhāvāsī resided on the summit of the Himavat in the holy Siddhakṣetra in the 17th dvāpara age. (23. 174-5)
393. Himavat—Mt.—It was consecrated as the lord of mountains. (70. 9)
394. Himavat—Mt.—On the occasion of the milking of the earth Meru was one who milked, Himavat was the calf and Śaila (mountain) was the pot. (62. 190)
395. Himavat—Mt.—Nos. 369, 524, 607, 812, 818, 819.
396. „ —Mt.—Nos. 185, 820, 831, 1022, 1155.
397. „ —Mt.—No. 130.
398. „ —Mt.—No. 194.
399. „ —Mt.—No. 435.
400. „ —Mt.—No. 469.
401. „ —Mt.—No. 470.
402. „ —Mt.—No. 142.
403. „ —Mt.—No. 297.
404. Hinānas—Ja.—No. 569.
405. Hiraṇmaya—Mt.—No. 818.
406. Hiraṇvat—Vr.—This varṣa is to the north of Śveta and to the south of Śṛṅgasāhva mountains. There the Mānavas live 12500 (?) years. They are happy and lovely in appearance with their desires fulfilled in all seasons. They drink the juice of the fruits of a big Lakuca tree which grows in that varṣa. The river Hiraṇvatī also flows there. (45. 6-10)
407. Hiraṇyapura—Cy.—In this city the Dānavas named Paulomas and Kālakeyas lived. (68. 25-7)
408. Hiraṇyavāhinī—Rv.—No. 108.
409. Hradas—D.—No. 130.

410. Hradas—Ja.—No. 470.
411. Hrādinī—Rv.—Agni ( i.e. Havyavāhana ) loved her. [ Na omits this. ] (29. 13-4)
412. Hrādinī—Rv.—No. 470.
413. Hūpas—D.—No. 130.
414. Ikṣu—Rv.—No. 130.
415. „ —Rv.—No. 1100.
416. Ikṣulā—Rv.—No. 130.
417. Ikṣurasodaka—S.—No. 1108.
418. Ilāvṛta—Vr.—It is in the centre of Jambudvīpa (?). There the sun, the moon and the *nakṣatras* do not shine. The people, who are really refugees from the Devaloka, live on the fruits and juice of Jambu tree, having a life of 13000 years each. This varṣa is to the opposite side (pratidiśam) of the Mount Meru covering 9000 (or 1026?) yojanas. Its shape is like that of a *śarṇva* (earthenware?) (46. 11-6)
419. Ilāvṛta—Vr.—No. 818.
420. Indradvīpa.—Rg.—No. 130.
421. „ —Rg.—No. 470.
422. Indradyumna.—L.—No. 470.
423. Indrakāśa.—Ja.—No. 470.
424. Indranadī—Rv.—No. 108.
425. Indranīla—Mt.—No. 106.
426. Indrasāila—Mt.—No. 713.
427. Irāvati—Rv.—Agni ( Havyavāhana ) loved her. [ Omitted in Na. ] (29. 12-4)
428. Irāvati—Rv.—No. 130.
429. Jalada—Vr.—No. 1099.
430. „ —Vr.—No. 1100.
431. Jaladhāra—Mt.—No. 1100.
432. Jambūdvīpa—Dv.—The Jambudvīpa and other dvīpas are described in the Vāyu Purāṇa. [Kha, Gha and Na : Jambudvīpa.] 1. 88.
433. Jambudvīpa—Dv.—Priyavrata was the son of Svāyambhūva Manu. He had ten sons and two daughters. He divided the whole earth of seven dvīpas amongst his sons thus :—Jambudvīpa he assigned to Agnīdhra, Plakṣadvīpa to Medhātithi, Śālmali-dvīpa to Vapuṣmat, Kuśadvīpa to Jyotiṣmat, Krauñcadvīpa to Dyutimat, Śākadvīpa to Havya and Puṣkaradvīpa to Savana. 33. 1-14.
434. Jambudvīpa—Dv.—Priyavrata consecrated Agnīdhra ( i.e. Priyavrata's daughter's son ) [ Ga and Na read differently ] as the lord of Jambudvīpa. This Agnīdhra has the following sons, viz., Nābhi, Kimpuruṣa, Harivarṣa, Ilāvṛta, Rāmya, Hariṣmat

(Gha : Hiraṇmat), Kuru, Bhadrāśva, and Ketumāla. The *deśas* assigned to them are as follows: The southern *varṣa* named Himāhva was assigned to Nābhi, the Hemakuṭa *varṣa* to Kimpuruṣa (?), Naiṣadha *varṣa* to Hari*varṣa*, the central portion of Sumeru to Ilāvṛta, Nīlavarṣa to Ramya, the northern Sveta (*varṣa*) to Hariṇmat, the northern Śṛṅgavat *varṣa* to Kuru, Mālyavat *varṣa* to Bhadrāśva and Gandhamādanavarṣa to Ketumāla. 33. 37-45

435. Jambudvīpa—Dv.—The Jambūdīpa of the nine *varṣas* is described thus:—It is 100 thousand *yojanas* in expanse, and it teems with various *janapadas* and *purāṣas*. It is encompassed by nine *bhuvanas* and is adorned with mountains inhabited by Siddhas, Cāraṇas and Gandharvas. The Lāvana sea surrounds it [Kha and Gha omit this sentence]. Extending east-west to the seas (thus equal in extent to the *dvīpa*) are the following six *varṣa* mountains: Himavat, Hemakūṭa, Nīṣadha, Sauvarṇa, Meru, and Caturasra (?). (34. 9-16)
436. Jambudvīpa—Dv.—On the peak of the southern mountain (i.e. Gandhamādana—cf., Meru No. 819) do jambū trees grow ever decked with fruits and flowers. The river Jambūnadi flows thence, and the Jambūnada is also there. There the Devas, Gandharvas, Dānavas, Yakṣas, Rākṣasas, and Paunagas relish the sweet jambū juice and hence (?) is the *śāntana* Jambudvīpa so called. (35. 26-32)
437. Jambudvīpa—Dv.—There are six sub-divisions of Jambudvīpa, which are: Angadvīpa, Yamadvīpa, Malayadvīpa, Śāṅkhadvīpa, Kuśadvīpa and Varāhadvīpa. [The last three are omitted in Kha.]

The Angadvīpa is occupied by the various *gaṇas* of the Mlecchas. In it is the Cakragiri in the centre of Nāgadeśa. In Yamadvīpa there is a mountain called Dyutimat which is a source of gold and pearls (*samudragāṇāṃ prabhavaḥ*). [This information about Dyutimat is not found in Na.] The Malayadvīpa is inhabited by the Mlecchas and there sandalwood trees grow in abundance. It is equally a store-house of gold and pearls. In this *dvīpa* are the Malaya and Mandara mountains. On the Mandara is the abode of Agastya revered by gods and asuras alike. The Malaya excels even the *svarga* in its foliage. On the Trikūṭa mountain (of this *dvīpa*) is the spacious city of Laṅkā, 100 × 30 *yojanas* in extent. It belongs to Kāmārūpin Rākṣasas, who pride in their power and hate the Devas. It is a *terra incognita* to men and is difficult of access. In the eastern *tīra* (?) of this *dvīpa* (i.e. Malayadvīpa) is Gokarna, an abode of Śaṅkara [according to Kha and Gha, of Deva.]

The Śaṅkhadvīpa, which is a home of the various gaṇas of the Mlecchas, is 100 yojanas in extent. It has only one king, viz. Śaṅkhamukha, the lord of the Nāgas (*nāgarāja*). In it are the mountain Śaṅkhagiri and the river Śaṅkhanāgā. In the Kumudadvīpa (i.e. Kuśadvīpa ?) Kumudā, a sister of Mahādeva, is worshipped. The Varāhadvīpa is occupied by the various gaṇas of the Mlecchas. This prosperous dvīpa has a mountain named Varāha whence the river Vārāha flows. Here the lord (Viṣṇu) in his Vārāha form is worshipped by gods. Such is the description of the six anudvīpas of (Jambudvīpa) and in the south (of this Jambudvīpa ?) is the Bharatadvīpa-deśa. (48. 13-43)

438. Jambudvīpa—Dv.—No. 469.
439. „ —Dv.—Nos. 818, 823, 989.
440. Jambūlā—Rv.—No. 130.
441. Jambūmārga—?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 38)
442. Jāmbunada—Rv. ?—No. 818.
443. „ —Rv. ?—No. 819.
444. „ —Rv. ?—No. 436.
445. Jambunadī—Rv.—No. 436.
446. „ —Rv.—No. 824.
447. Janasthāna—Rg.—At Janasthāna, Rāma, the son of Daśaratha, lived and fulfilled the desire of gods by killing the son of Pulastya (i.e. Rāvapa). (88. 194-5)
448. Jāngas—Ja.—No. 569. [Gha : Jānghas.]
449. Jāhnavī—Rv.—Viśvasphāni of Magadha will offer his body (i.e. die) in the stream of the river Jāhnavī after paying respects to gods, manes and Brahmins. (99. 381)
450. Jāhnavī—Rv.—Nos. 298, 709.
451. Jārudhi—Mt.—No. 660.
452. „ —Mt.—No. 713.
453. Jāṭāyu—Mt.—No. 386.
454. Jāṭhara—Mt.—No. 819.
455. „ —Mt.—No. 1022.
456. Jātudhi—Mt.—In the northern deśa is the devapārvata Jātudhi [Gha and Na : Jārudhi]. There Yakṣas, Kinnaras, Gandharvas, Nāgas, Rākṣasas and Daityas dwell. In its central kūṭa (hill) is a beautiful lake named Ānandajala [Gha, Na : Nānandajala] which covers an area of 30 yojanas. There the lord of the Nāgas named Caṇḍa of hundred faces dwells. He has, as his emblem, the discus (cakra) of Viṣṇu. (41. 66-73)
457. Jātudhi—Mt.—No. 106. [Gha and Na : Jārudhi.]
458. Jayanta—Mt.—Nos. 130, 569.
459. Jīmūta—D.—No.
460. „ —Vr.—Nos. 1107, 1108.

461. Juhvāṣa—D.—No. 130.
- 461a. Jyotsnā—Rv.—No. 1278.
462. Kācalas—Ja.—No. 569.
463. Kacchīyas—Ja.—No. 130.
464. Kaikaṭa—?—No. 1316. [ Kha, Ga and Na : Vaikaṭa. ]
465. Kailāsa—Mt.—The Mahāpuruṣa created by Śiva was like Kailāsa. (30. 130)
466. Kailāsa—Mt.—Bali, the Dānavs, is compared to Kailāsa. (50. 48)
467. „ —Mt.—The summit of the Kailāsa is frequented by the Cakravākas, Mayūras, Krauñcas, Kokilas and also by Siddhas, Cāraṇas, Apsarasas, Kinnaras and the Bhūtas and Vināyakas. Here did the wife of Śiva ask him a question as to why he is called Nilakaṇṭha. (54. 30-45)
468. Kailāsa—Mt.—The lord of the Yakṣas has his place of residence on the Kailāsa. (30. 85)
469. Kailāsa—Mt.—The Kailāsa is an abode of the devotees of god. On its central hill (kūṭa) is situated the city of Dhanādhyakṣa Kubera. This city occupies an area of 100 × 50 yojanas. At the centre of this city is a spacious *sabhā* called Vipulā. The great *vimāna* which is a vehicle of Kubera, the king of the Yakṣas, is kept here. Here does Kubera, the friend of Mahādeva, dwell with Apsarasas, Gandharvas, Yakṣas, Siddhas and Cāraṇas. The eight *mahānidhānas* of Kubera are also kept in this *sabhā*. In this city Indra, Agni and Yama also reside. A beautiful pond (vāpi) named Mandākinī adds to the beauty of the city. The rivers Alakanandā and Nandā flow here. On the eastern hill of this mountain are situated the ten cities of the Gandharvas. These cities occupy 1000 × 30 yojanas of area. On the western hill (kūṭa), which is 80 × 40 yojanas in area, are the thirty mansions of thirty Yakṣa-chiefs whose paramount lord is Vaiśravaṇa. On the snow-clad peak in the south are the 100 cities of Kinnaras. There Rudra married Umā; there did she practise penance; there Śiva played in his Kirāta form; and Śiva and Umā had a view of Jambudvīpa from this very place. Here is also the Umāvana where Śiva assumed the *ardhanaranārī* form, as also the Śaravaṇa where the six-faced (Skanda) was born. On the Krauñcāsaila of this mountain were lions yoked to the chariot of Kārtikeya. It was here that Guha (i.e. Skanda ?) was consecrated to the generalship of the gods. On the eastern *tata* of Kailāsa is the Kalāpagrāma where the sages, viz., Mṛkaṇḍa, Vasiṣṭha, Bharata, Nala, Viśvāmitra, Uddālaka and others have their hermitages in hundreds and thousands in this Himavat (mountain). (41. 1-47)

470. **Kailāsa—Mt.**—It is to the left side of the Himavat. Kubera, the lord of the city of Alakā lives here with Rākṣasas and Apsarasas. Here is a lake named Kumudvat at the foot of the mountain whence the river Mandākinī flows. On its bank is a great forest. A little north of the Kailāsa is the hill called Candraprabha at the foot of which is the Acchoda lake which is the source of the river Acchodā whose banks are lined with a forest named Caitraratha. On the Candraprabha hill the commander of the Yakṣas, by name Maṇibhadra, dwells surrounded by the cruel Guhyakas. The rivers Mandākinī and Acchododikā flow south-east and passing along the Piśāṅga mountain join the great sea. At the foot of the Lohita hill is the Lohita lake which is a source of the river (?) Lauhityā on whose banks is a forest named Viśoka. On the Lohitā the Yakṣa Maṇivara resides with the pious Guhyakas. To the south of the Kailāsa are the Triaku(?) [Na-Trikaṭu] and Vaidyuta hills. At the foot of the Vaidyuta hills is the Mānasa lake, the source of the river Sarayū with the Vaibrāja forest on its banks. Here dwells the powerful Rākṣasa, named Brahmapāta [Ga and Gha : Brahmāpeta] who is a follower of Kubera and is followed by hundreds of Yātudhānas. The Aruna mount, the abode of Girīśa, at the foot of which is the Śailoda lake whence the river Śailodā flows, is also to the south of the Kailāsa. This river joins the Lavaṇodadhi. The forest Surabhi is on its banks. To the north of Kailāsa is the hill named Gaura with the beautiful lake Bindusara at its foot. It was near this lake that the royal sage Bhagīratha dwelt for many years for the river Gaṅgā. It was here that the heavenly river of the three courses descended on the earth and started its sevenfold course. While falling from the heavens the drops of water so collected formed the lake Bindusara (hence its name) whence this river flows in seven channels—three to the east and three to the west, the one to the south which followed Bhagīratha, after whom it was called Bhagīrathī. All these seven courses of the river grace the Himāhva varṣa. The names of the eastern courses of this river are : Nalinī, Hrādinī, and Pāvanī ; those of the western are : Sītā, Cakṣu and Sindhu. All these courses water the following deśas :—Sirindhras, Kuntalas, Cīnas, Barbaras, Yavasas, Druhas, Ruṣāṇas, Kuṇindas, Aṅgas and Lokavaras (or Aṅgalokavaras ?). The river Sītā thus divides the Sindhumaru land and joins the western sea. The river Cakṣu waters the following janapadas :—Cīnamarus, Taṅgaṇas, Sarvamūlikas [Kha, Ga, Gha and Na : Sarvaśūlikas], Āndhras, Tuṣāras, Tampākas, Paṇnavas, Daradas and Śakas. The river Gaṅgā blesses the following ārya jana-

padas:—Daradas, Kāmīras, Gāndhāras, Varapas, Hradas, Śivapauras, Indrahāsas, Vadātia, (Visarjaya?), Saindhavas, Randhrakarakas (or Randhras and Karakas?) [Gha : Randhravarakas], Bhramaras, [Kha, Gha and Na : Bhramatas], Ābhīras, Rohakas, Śunāmukhas, Ūrdhvamanus [Kha, Gha and Na : Ūrdhvarūma. The same Mas. read that these janapadas were watered by the river Sindhu], Gandharvas, Kinnaras, Yakṣas, Rākṣasas, Vidyādhara, Urugas, Kalāpagrāmakas, Pāradas, Sigaṇas [Kha and Na : Tāṅanas], Khasas, Kirātas, Pulindas, Kurus, Bharatas, Pāñcālas, Kāśis, Mātsyas, Magadhas, Aṅgas, Brahmottaras, Vaṅgas and Tāmraliptas and being obstructed by the Vindhya (mountain) it joined the southern sea. The river Āhlādinī, (in the above list of seven courses of the river the name is Hrādinī), runs to the east through the Upabhogas (or territories) of the various *jātis* of the Niśādas, and of the Dhīvaras, Ṛṣikas, Nīlamukhas, Keralas, Uṣtrakarṇas [Kha, Ga and Gha : Naṣṭakarnas] Kirātas, Kālodaras, Vivarnas, Kumāras [Kha, Ga, Gha and Na : Kumāris], and Svarṇabhūṣitas (?). The course Pāvanī, wading through the Indradyumna lake and watering (the land of?) Kharāpathas, Indrasaṅkupathas and Kuthaprāvaraṇas (?) enters the Lavaṇodadhi (?) near the sea of Indradvīpa. The course Nalinī also rushes up to the east watering (the land of?) Tomaras, Haṁsamārgas, Saddūhukas (?), Karṇaprāvaranas, Aśvamukhas and Vidyādhara and thus joins the great sea. These courses, in their turn, have their own numerous tributaries. (47. 1-60)

471. Kailāsa—Mt.—Nos. 694, 845.
472. „ —Mt.—No. 817.
473. „ —Mt.—No. 819.
- 473a. „ —Mt.—No. 820.
474. Kāla—Mt.—Nos. 1022, 1179.
475. Kalas—Ja.—No. 567.
476. Kālāmbara—Mt.—On this mountain Śiva will pass away his time in the 23rd dvāpāra; that is why this mountain is called Kālāmbara. (23. 204)
477. Kālāmbara—Cy. ?—Situated on the banks of the (river) Daśārnā. It is holy for śrāddha. (77. 93)
478. Kalāpagrāma—Cy.—The king Aiḍa (Purūravas) is called the inhabitant of Kalāpagrāma. (1. 189)
479. Kalāpagrāma—Cy.—Purūravas enjoyed with Urvaśī in Kalāpagrāma. (91. 7)
480. Kalāpagrāma—Cy.—Manu, a descendant in the Ikṣvāku line, resorted to yoga and resided in Kalāpagrāma in the 19th *prayuga*. He is also called Kṣatraprāvartaka. (88. 210)



461. Kalāpagrāma—Cy.—Devāpi, a Paurava king, was a great yogin. He resided in Kalāpagrāma.
462. Kalāpagrāma—Cy.—Nos. 469, 779.
463. Kalāpagrāmakas—Ja.—No. 470.
464. Kālasarpi—Tī.—The tirtha of Kaśyapa [Kāśyapa in Gha] is known as Kālasarpi. It is holy for śraddha. (77. 87)
465. Kālatopakas—Ja.—This janapada will be ruled over by the Mañi-dhānysjas. (99. 384)
466. Kālatoyakas—D.—( No. 130 ).
467. Kālindī—Rv.—( No. 569 ). [ Omitted in Gha. ]
468. Kalingas—D.—Here the āśramadharma does not prevail and it is taboo for śraddha purposes. (78. 23)
469. Kalingas—Ja.—It was the janapada of Kalinga, son of king Bali ( of Yayāti's line ) who reigned in the east. (99. 33-4)
490. Kalingas—Ja.—This janapada will be protected by Guha. (99. 386)
491. Kalingas—Rg.—There people will fly in the end of the Kali age. (99. 402)
492. Kalingas—D.—No. 22.
493. Kalinga—Mt.—No. 820.
494. „ —Mt.—No. 1022.
495. Kalingas—Ja.—No. 130.
496. „ —? —No. 470.
497. Kalisparśas—Ja.—No. 345.
498. Kālodaras—Ja. ? —No. 470.
- 498a. Kambalas—Ja.—No. 567.
499. Kambala—Mt.—No. 569.
500. Kambalā—Rv.—No. 569.
501. Kāmbojas—D.—130.
502. „ —Ja.—No. 345.
- 502a. Kāmodakas—Ja.—569.
503. Kāmpilya—Cy. ? —Samara, one of the Nīpas and a descendant of Yayāti, ruled in Kāmpilya. (99. 106-8)
504. Kanakanandi—Tī.—By having a bath here one goes to heaven. (Cf. No. 856). (77. 105)
505. Kanakhola—Tī. ? —Holy for śraddha. (82. 21)
506. Kanakaśrīga.—Mt.—No. 713.
507. Kaṅka—Mt.—( No. 27 ). [ Gha and Na : Kāka. ]
508. „ —Mt.—No. 1108.
509. Kānanasthali— ? —It is situated between the Puṣpaka and Mahāmegha mountains. It is 100 × 60 yojanas in extent. (38. 71-3)
510. Kāñcanakā—Cy.—The descendants of Vindhyaśakti (?) will rule in this city for sixty years. (99. 371-2)
511. Kāñci—Rv.—( No. 103 ). [ Ka : Kāñci ].

512. Kañci—Rv.—No. 569.
513. Kāṇva—P.—One of the fifteen Pakṣas of Aṅgirasas. (65. 106-8)
514. Kapila—Vr.—Nos. 673, 674.
515. „ —Mt.—No. 713.
516. „ —Mt.—No. 1179.
517. „ —Mt.—No. 27.
518. Kapilakarnikas—Ja.—No. 569.
519. Kapiñjala—Mt.—Between Kapiñjala and Nāgaśaila there is a big *sthalī* which is 100 × 200 (or 102?) yojanas in extent. It is overgrown with trees of Kharjjūra, Nilāsoka, Dāḍima, Atasi, Kadali, Akṣotaka, Badari, Nāga and Drākṣa. (38. 66-70)
520. Kapiñjala—Mt.—No. 106.
521. Kapotakas—Ja.—No. 569.
- 521a. Karambhavas—Ja.—No. 567.
522. Karañja—Mt.—On this mountain there is an abode of Śankara, the lord of the Bhūtas. Here the Bhūtas dwell in their different forms. (39. 42-3)
523. Karañjas—Ja.—No. 569.
524. Kārapatha—D.—Aṅgada, son of Dāśarathi Lakṣmana, had his janapada at the foot of the Himavat mountain. This janapada is the same as the Kārapatha deśa in which the capital city known as Aṅgadiyā was situated. (88. 187-8)
- 524a. Kārapatha—D.—No. 51.
525. Kāraskaras—D.—Here the āśramadharma does not prevail and this deśa is taboo for śrāddha performances. [Ka : Kārañkaras.] (78. 23)
526. Kāraskaras—P.—They live in a country (deśa) of sin. The virtuous evade contact with them. By visiting this unholy land one is inflicted with sin. (78. 69-72)
527. Karatoyā—Rv.—No. 130.
528. Karavāṭas—Ja.—No. 569.
529. Karkotaka—?—Kārtavīrya Arjuna conquered Karkotakasabhā (i.e. the sabhā of Karkoṭaka Nāgas?) with the thousand Nāgas and entered the city of Māhiṣmatī. (94. 26)
530. Kāru—Mt.—No. 130.
- 530a. Karūṣa—Rg.—Dantavakra was lord of Karūṣa. (96. 155)
- 530b. Karūṣas—P.—No. 130.
531. Kaseru—Rg.—No. 130.
532. Kaserukas—D.—No. 130.
533. Kāśi—Cy.—Kusadhvaṇya was the lord of Kāśi. He was a son of Śīradhvaṇya Janaka. [Gha : Sāmkāśi.] (89. 18)
534. Kāśi—Cy.—Vibhu [Kha and Gha : Babhru] was the king of Kāśi. In his *viśaya* rain did not fall for three years. Then he invited Śvafalka (or Svafalka) to stay with him and the rains came. (96. 103-4)

535. Kāśi—Cy. ?—Satyaka's wife was Kāśiduhitā (i.e. a daughter of the king of Kāśi). (This Satyaka was one of the Vṛṣṇis or Andhakas.) (96. 115)
536. Kāśi—Cy. ?—People will fly to Kāśikośālas (i.e. Kāśis and Kosalas ?) at the end of the Kali age. (99. 402)
537. Kāśi— ? —Kāśa was one of the three sons of Suta-hotra. His rāṣṭra (rāṣṭra ?) was called Kāśis (or Kāśaya ?). (92. 1-6)
538. Kāśi— ? —Dīrghatapas was a son of Kāśa. He had no son and hence he practised penance. Dhanvantari was pleased and as a consequence of the boon demanded by the king he was born as the king's son in the second dvāpara age. This Dhanvantari (i.e. son of Dīrghatapas) is described as Kāśi-rāja. (92. 18-21)
539. Kāśi— ? —King Alarka, called Kāśisattama, achieved a long life due to the favour of Lopāmudrā. (92. 67)
- 539a. Kāśi— ? —No. 1403.
540. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
541. „ — ? —No.
542. „ —Ja.—No. 130.
543. Kāśmīras—D.—No. 130.
544. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
545. „ —Rg.—People will fly to (the land of ?) Kāśmīras at the end of the Kali age. (99. 402)
546. Kaumāra—Vr.—No. 1100.
547. „ —Vr.—No. 1099.
548. Kauraja—Mt.—It is inhabited by the Garuḍas. (69. 330-4)
549. Kauśāmbī—Cy.—No. 361.
550. Kauśika—Rg.—No. ?
551. Kauśikas—P.—At the end of the Kali age the Kauśikas will inhabit countries afflicted with hunger and fear. (58. 62)
552. Kauśikī—Rv.—Agni (i.e. Havyavāhana) loved her [Ūa : omits this]. (29. 14)
553. Kauśikī—Rv.—It is the best of rivers, named after (?) Kauśikī or Satyavatī, wife of the sage Ṛcika. (91. 88-9)
554. Kauśikī—Rv. ?—Holy for śrāddha (cf. Nos. 184 & 1197). (77. 101)
555. „ —Rv.—No. 130.
556. Kāverī—Rv.—It is the best of rivers. King Jahnu's wife was Kāverī. (91. 59)
557. Kāverī—Rv.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 28)
558. „ —Rv.—Agni (i.e. Havyavāhana) loved her. (29)
559. „ —Rv.—Nos. 130, 184.
560. „ —Rv.—No. 108.
- 560a. Kāyārohaṇa—T.—No. 814.
561. Kekayas—Ja.—Kekaya was one of the four sons of Śibi. His janapada was Kekaya. (99. 24)

562. Kekayas—Ja.—No. 130.
563. Keralas—Ja.—Kerala was one of the four sons of king Janāpīḍa of Turvasu line. His janapada was known as Kerala. (99. 5-6)
564. Keralas—Ja.—No. 130.
565. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
566. Kesara—V.—This Kesara-droṇi is situated between the Kumuda and Añjana mountains. Here is also the Śabala forest in which is a mansion of Viṣṇu, the guru of the Suras. (38. 45-8)
567. Keśari—Mt.—No. 1100.
568. Ketas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 78-83)
569. Ketumāla—Dv.—This dvīpa is to the west of the Niṣadha mountain. The seven Kula mountains in this dvīpa are : Viśāla, Kambala, Kṛṣṇa, Jayanta, Hari, Aśoka and Vardhamāna [Ga omits the last two names.] These mountains have their own numerous ranges. The janapadas which are 'mixed' (*vimīśrāḥ*) with these mountains and which are protected by many kings are as follows :—Pauras (is Paura here a generic term as the janapada?) [Gha and Ōa, however, read Sauras instead], Gomanuṣyas, Kapotakas [Gha omits these three names], Tatsukhas (?), Bhrāmaras [Ōa : Bhrāmaras], Yūthas, Māheyas, Acalakūṭakas, Sumaulas, Stāvakas, Krauñcas, Kṛṣṇāṅgas, Mañipunjakas (Ōa : Mañiyuñjakas), Kutas, Kambalas, Mauṣīyas, Karambhavas, Kucas, Śvetas [Gha and Ōa : Śyenās], Suvarṇakāṭakas (?) [Ga, Gha and Ōa : Suvarṇatātakas], Śvetāṅgas, Kṛṣṇāpādas, Vihas [Ga : Vidas; Gha : Vindas], Kapilakarmīkas, Atyākaraḷagojvālas, Hīnānas, Vanapātakas [Ga, Gha and Ōa : Vānapātakas], Mahīvas, Kumudābhas, Karavātas, Utkacas, Śunakāśas [Gha : Śukanāśas], Mahānāśas (?), Vanāsagajabhūmikas (?), Karañjas, Mañjamas, Vāhas, Kiṣkiṇḍīs (?), Pāṇḍubhūmikas, Kuberas, Dhūmajas, Jaṅgas [Gha : Janghas], Vaṅgas, Rājīvakokilas (or Rājīvas and Kokilas?), Vācāṅgas, Mahāṅgas, Madhaureyas, Surecakas, Pittalas [Gha and Ōa : Pittatas], Kācalas, Śravaṇas, Mattakāsikas [Gha : Mattavāsikas], Godāvas, Vakulas, Vāṅgas, Vaṅgas, Kāmodakaś and Kalas. They drink the waters of the following rivers : Suvaprā [Ga and Ōa : Suvakṣā], Kambalā, Tāmasī, Śyāmā, Sumedhā, Bakulā [Ga and Ōa : Bahulā], Vikīrnā, Śikhimālā, Darbhāvati, Bhadrā, Śukanadī, Palāśā, Bhīmā, Prabhañjanā, Kāñcī, Cuśāvati, Dakṣā, Śākavati, Puṇyodā, Candrāvati, Sumūlā, Rṣabhā, Samudramālā, Campāvati, Ekākṣā, Puṣkalā, Vābā, Suvarṇā, Nandini, Kāḷindī, Puṇyodā, Bhārati, Brāhmī and Viśālā [Names from Candrāvati to Viśālā are omitted in Gha], Pīvarī, Kumbhakārī, Ruṣā, Mahīṣī, Mānuṣī and Daṇḍā. Such is this western mahādvīpa. (44)

570. Ketumāla—Dv.—Nos. 27, 819.  
 570a. „ —Dv.—No. 818.  
 571. Khasas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 83)  
 572. Khasas—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age. (98. 106-9)  
 573. Khasas—D.—No. 130 [Ga : Strasas ].  
 574. „ —P.—No. 345.  
 575. „ —Ja.—No. 470.  
 576. Khasas—P.—The angry sages 'churned' the left arm of Vena and thence arose a pigmy-like (*hrasva*) black figure ; he was frightened and stood aghast with his hands folded begging for mercy. The sages ordered him to sit (*niṣīda*). Thus did he become the founder of the race (*vāṁśa*) of the Niṣādas. He also procreated the Dhīvaras who inherited the vices of Vena ; and those who were the inhabitants of the Vindhya, viz , Tumburas, Stuvaras, (or Tuvaras ?) [ Ga : Varbaras ], and Khasas, were irreligious and they too inherited the vices of Vena. (62. 119-25)  
 577. Khyāti 7—Rv.—No. 606.  
 578. Kimbhayas—P.—One of the fifteen pakṣas of Aṅgirasas. (65. 106-8)  
 579. Kimpurusa—Vr.—The people in Kimpuruṣa varṣa enjoy a life of 10,000 years : Their complexion is like gold in colour. With their minds pure they are always happy. In this varṣa there is a plakṣa tree the juice of which the people drink. (46. 2-7)  
 580. Kimpuruṣa—Vr.—No. 434.  
 581. „ Vr.—No. 818.  
 582. Kimpuruṣas—P.—They were the descendants of Hari (—bhadra ?), a daughter of Krodhā, who was a Rākṣasī. (69. 208)  
 583. Kimpuruṣas—P.—The Mayā-kimpuruṣas were descendants of Pulaha. (70. 65)  
 584. Kīṁśuka—F.—It is situated between Vasudhāra and Ratnadhāra mountains covering an area of 100 × 30 yojanas. Here Siddhas, Cāranas and Apsarāsas reside. In this forest is a mansion (*āyatana*) of Āditya (i.e. sun-god) where he descends every month. (38. 27-32)  
 585. Kirātas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. They had various jātis. (58. 78-83)  
 586. Kirātas—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age. (98. 106-9)  
 587. Kirātas—P.—No. 130.  
 588. „ Ja.—No. 130.  
 589. „ Ja.—No. 470.

590. Kirātas—P.—No. 470.
591. Kisaṣṇas—Ja.—No. 130 [ Ga : Kisaṣtas ].
592. Kiṣkindha—C.—The god Śiva, after narrating to his wife the story of how he came to be called as Nīlakantha, retired to the Kiṣkindha cave with his wife Umā. (54. 116)
593. Kiṣkindhakas—P.—No. 130.
594. Kiṣkindīs (?)—Ja.—No. 569.
595. Kolāhala—Mt.—No. 130.
596. Kolavanas—D.—No. 130.
597. Komalā—Cy. or Rg.—In Komalā there will be powerful kings who will be known as Meghas of whom there will be nine kings [ Na reads Medhātīthi instead of Meghas ]. They will (also) be known as Niṣadha kings, as they were (cf. *prasūtāh*) descendants of Nala. (99. 375-7)
- 597a. Korañja—( No. 108 )—[ Na : Kaurañja ].
598. Kośalas—Ja.—This janapada will be protected (i.e. ruled) by Guha. (99. 385)
599. Kośalā—Rg.—The kingdom of Kuśa, son of Dāśarathī Rāma was known as Kośalā. Its capital was Kuśasthalī situated amidst the hills of the Vindhya mountain. In the Uttarākośala was the kingdom of Lava (brother of Kuśa), with its capital city Śrāvastī. [ Gha reads Kośalā only for Uttarākośala and does not connect it with Śrāvastī ]. (80. 199-200)
600. Kosalas—Ja.—No. 130.
601. Kośalā—T.—In Kośalā there is a pond or well (vāpī). By merely bathing there one goes to heaven. (77. 36)
602. Kośalas—Ja.—Nos. 536, 542.
- 602a. Kratu—Rv.—No. 989.
603. Krauñca—Mt.—Skanda killed Tārakāsura on the Krauñca mountain. (72. 47)
604. Krauñca—Mt.—Nos. 469, 606.
605. Krauñcas—Ja.—No. 569.
606. Krauñcadvīpa—Dv.—This dvīpa is twice in area as that of Kuśādvīpa; it surrounds the Ghrtodaka sea. The following are the mountains in this dvīpa: Krauñca, Vāmanaka, Andhakāraka, Divāvṛt, Divinda, Puṇḍarīka, and Dundubhisvana; and the corresponding varṣas are: Kuśala, Manonuga, Uṣṇa, Prāvaraka, Andhakāraka. Muni and Dundubhisvana. The seven great rivers corresponding to these varṣas are: Gaurī, Kumudvatī, Saṁdhyā, Rātri, Manojavā, Khyāti and Puṇḍarīkā. Thus is Gaṅgā sevenfold (i.e. having seven courses; cf. *saptavidhā*). (49. 61-71)

607. Krauñcadvīpa—Dv.—Menā was the wife of Himavat. She gave birth to Maināka and Gaṅgā. Maināka's younger brother (*anuja*) was Krauñca after whom Krauñcadvīpa is so called [Na omits this]. (30. 32)
608. Krauñcadvīpa—Dv.—Dyutimat, lord of Krauñcadvīpa, had the following sons: Kuśala, Manuga, Uṣṇa, Pīvara, Andhakāraka, Muni and Dundubhi [these names are omitted in Kha and Gha]. Uṣṇa-deśa belonged to Uṣṇa; Pīvara-deśa to Pīvara; Andhakāradeśa to Andhakāra; Munideśa to Muni and Dundubhi-deśa to Dundubhi (here two names are omitted). These are the seven janapadas in the Krauñcadvīpa. (33. 21-3)
609. Krauñcadvīpa—Dv.—No. 433.
610. Kṛmilā—Cy.—No. 891.
611. Kṛṣṇa—Mt.—Between Kṛṣṇa and Pāṇḍura mountains is a plateau 30 × 90 yojanas in area. There in the centre of a lake is a *sthalapadminī* [Gha: *jalapadminī*] haunted by :Yaksas, :Gandharvas, Siddhas and Cāraṇas. In the centre of this sthalapadminī is a great Nyagrodha tree covering a space of five yojanas. It is here that the thousand-faced god Hari dwells and is worshipped by Yaksas, Gandharvas, Vidyādhara, Siddhas and Cāraṇas with lotus offerings. (38. 49-50)
612. Kṛṣṇa—Mt.—On the Kṛṣṇa (mountain) are situated the cities of Gandharvas. (39. 59)
613. Kṛṣṇa—Mt.—No. 130.
614. „ —Mt.—No. 27.
615. „ —Mt.—No. 569.
616. Kṛṣṇabhaumas—Ja.—(No. 108). [Ga and Na: Kṛṣṇas and Bhau-mas.]
617. Kṛṣṇagiri—Mt.—No. 130.
618. Kṛṣṇāpādas—Ja.—No. 569.
619. Kṛṣṇatoyā—Rv.—No. 108.
620. Kṛṣṇavenī?—Rv.—Agni (i.e. Havyavāhana) loved her. (29. 13-4)
621. Kṛtamālā—Rv.—No. 130.
- 621a. Kṣārodā—Rv.—(No. 108). [Gha: Kṣīrodā].
622. Kṣemaka—Vr.—No. 988.
623. „ —Vr.—No. 989.
624. Kṣīroda—S.—In the northern portion of the Kṣīroda (or Amṛta) sea Viṣṇu sleeps having resorted to an eternal yoga. (97. 22)
625. Kṣīroda—S.—Viṣṇu is near Kṣīroda. (55. 5)
626. „ —S.—While returning from the south, the sun is at Viṣṇu; (then?) he passes in the direction north of the Kṣīroda sea. (50. 125)
627. Kṣīroda—S.—No. 1027.
628. „ —S.—No. 1100.

629. Kāiroda—No. ?.
630. Kṣupapas—D.—(No. 130). [Gha; Kulapas; Na : Kuṣapas.] (77. 78)
- 630a. Kuberatuṅga—H.—Holy for śrāddha.
631. Kuberas—Ja.—No. 569.
632. Kulindas—D.—No. 130. [Ga : Kunindas].
633. Kulyas—Ja.—Janāpīḍa was a descendant of Turvasu. Kulya was one of his four sons. His janapada was Kulya. (99. 5-6)
634. Kulyas—Ja.—No. 130.
635. Kumanas—Ja.—No. 130.
636. Kumārakośalā—Ti.—Holy for śrāddha [G : Kumārakuśilā].
637. Kumāras—P.—No. 470.
638. Kumārī—Rv.—Nos. 1100, 1197.
639. Kumārikya—?—No. 130.
640. Kumbha—T.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 47)
641. Kumbhakārī—Rv.—No. 569.
642. Kumuda—Mt.—No. 1174.
643. „ Mt.—No. 566.
644. „ Mt.—Between the Sahasra-śikhara (?) and Kumuda mountains is the hermitage of Śukra. It is 50 × 30 yojanas in area. (38. 60-62)
645. Kumuda—Mt.—No. 1179.
646. „ Mt.—No. 27.
647. „ Mt.—No. 1108.
648. „ Mt.—Kinnaras dwell on Kumuda mountain. (39. 59)
649. Kumudas—Ja.—No. 108.
650. Kumudābhas—Ja.—No. 569.
651. Kumudadvīpa—Dv.—No. 437.
652. Kumudvatī ?—Rv.—No. 130.
653. „ —Rv.—No. 606.
654. Kumunīja—Mt.—No. 146.
655. „ Mt.—Between Kuñja [Ga : Mumunījaka] and Śītānta mountains. There are big valleys (*droṇyaḥ*) and is 300 × 100 yojanas in area [this portion about the area is omitted in Na and Ka omits the following:] Here is also a lake named Śrī where Mahoragas, Gandharvas, Devas and Dānavas dwell. There is a big lotus in this lake where the goddess Śrī herself resides. (37. 1-8)
- 655A. Kumunīja—Mt.—Nos. 1174, 782, 1290.
656. Kuṇindas—Ja.—No. 470.
657. Kuntalas—Ja.—No. 130<sup>2</sup>.
658. „ D.—No. 470.
659. Kūpā—Rv.—No. 130. [Gha and Na : Kṛpā].



660. Kuru—Vr.—To the extreme borderline of the northern sea and to the south (?) is the holy Kuru inhabited by Siddhas. Here trees, called *kṣīrin*, grow. From them Kṣīra, composed of six rasas gently ooze out. It is sweet like amṛta. Here and there in this varṣa can be found trees which fulfil all desires of men and from which sweet honey flows. The people of this varṣa are refugees from Devaloka. The men are ever young and enjoy the kṣīra with their beautiful wives. They are equal in all respects, even in respect of the time of their death. Like Cakravākas they love their wives. Adultery is unknown. They enjoy a life of 13500 years : This varṣa is to the north of the Jārudhi. There are two mountains in this varṣa, viz., Candrakānta and Sūryakānta. They are inhabited by Siddhas and Cāranas. Between them flows the great river Bhadrasmā. There are numerous other rivers which are flooded by ghṛee, honey, curds and maireya (?), etc. There are also forests of sandal-wood, tamāla and aguru trees in this varṣa. Here can one listen to the sweet melodies of Mṛdaṅga, Venu, Paṇava, Vinā, etc. Everywhere do we see here gardens and cities. The svarga by name Bhoma is situated in this varṣa. The people are great and bear the lustre of gods. They use the following ornaments for decoration : valaya, aṅgada, keyūra, hāra, kuṇḍala and mukuta. Their dress is picturesque. They are not tainted by egoism (*mamatva*), and dharma and adharma have no meaning for them. Similarly old age, disease and fatigue do not distress them and at the scheduled time of their death they vanish away like bubbles of water. To the southern side of this varṣa, after crossing a distance of 5000 yojanas, we come to the home of Suras, known by the name of Candradvīpa. In its centre is a mountain attended by Siddhas and Cāranas. From this mountain flows the river Candrāvartā. On the same mountain is a place (i.e. residence) of Candramas, the lord of the Nakṣatras. (This very mountain) is known by the name Candramas. (45. 11-60)

661. Kuru—Vr.—No. 818.

662. „ —D.—No. 819.

663. „ —D.—No. 130.

664. Kuru—Ja.—No. 470.

665. Kurujāngala— ? —Holy for śrāddha. (77. 93)

666. Kurukṣetra—Ti.—After a long and weary search, king Purūravas saw his beloved Urvaśī at Kurukṣetra in Plakṣatīrtha sporting with five aparasas in a puṣkariṇī. (91. 31-2)

667. Kurukṣetra—Cy.—Kuru was the son of king Samvarana, a descendant of Puru. He crossed over to (?) Prayāga and founded the Kurukṣetra. (Cf. *Yah Prayāgam padākramya kurukṣetram cakāra ha.*) (99. 214-5)
668. Kurukṣetra—Ti.—It is a holy tirtha of Sanatkumāra, the lord of yoga. It is holy for śrāddha.
669. Kurukṣetra—Ti.—The pious king Adhisāmakṛṣṇa is now ruling. It is in his reign that this (Vāyu Purāṇa) is being narrated to you on the occasion of this difficult and long-drawn sacrificial session of three years at Kurukṣetra on the banks of the river Drṣadvatī and two years have already passed (since the time of its commencement?). (This is what the Sūta says to the sages of the Naimiṣa forest who had started the session which had been the occasion for the narration of the Vāyu Purāṇa.) [Kha mentions the name of the king as Adhimāsakṛṣṇa.]
670. Kurukṣetra—Ti.—No. 152. [Omitted in Gha.]
671. Kurukṣetra—Ti.—No. 215.
672. Kurupāñcālas—Ja.—No. 130.
673. Kuśadvīpa—Dv.—Jyotiṣmat, lord of Kuśadvīpa had the following seven sons :—Udbhida, Venumat, Svairatha, Lavaṇa, Dhṛti, Prabhākara and Kapila. Their respective varṣas are : Udbhida, Venumandala, Svairathākāra [Kha : Svarathākāra], Lavaṇa, Dhṛtimat, Prabhākara and Kapila. The people of these varṣas follow the āśrama system. (33. 24-7)
674. Kuśadvīpa—Dv.—This fourth dvīpa surrounds the Surodaka sea. The seven mountains in this dvīpa are : Vidrumoccaya, Hema, Dyutimat, Puspavat, Kuśēśaya, Harigiri, and Mandara. Mandara is so called because the streams that flow from it have very still and gentle courses (?). This dvīpa is twice in area to Śālmala-dvīpa. The seven varṣas in this dvīpa are : Udbhida, Venumandala, Svairathākāra [Kha : Vairathākāra], Lavaṇa, Dhṛtimat, Prabhākara and Kapila. Devas and Gandharvas rejoice in these varṣas, where there are no Dasyus nor any jātis of Mlecchas. The people are of fair complexion. The seven rivers in this dvīpa are : Dhutapāpā, Śivā, (the plural for these two names should be noted), Pavitrā, Samtati, Dyutigarbha [Ga and Na : Dyutidarbhā ; Gha : Dyutirdarmbhā] and Mahī. There are numerous other rivers and all of them flow to the region where rain falls. The Ghṛtoda sea, equal in area to Kuśadvīpa, encircles this Kuśadvīpa. The Krauñcadvīpa is twice in area as that of the Kuśadvīpa.
675. Kuśadvīpa—Dv.—Nos. 437, 606.
676.     “     —Dv.—No. 433.

677. Kuśāla ?—Ja.—No. 608.  
 678. „ —Vr.—No. 606.  
 679. Kuśāla ?—F.—Diti, wife of Mārīca Kaśya, practised severe penance in Kuśāla [ Ga, Gha and Na : Kuśāpla ] forest to enable her to beget a son capable of killing Śakra who had slain her sons. (67. 84)  
 680. Kuśāprāvarṇas—D.—No. 130.  
 681. Kuśasthali—Cy.—Śaryāti was a son of Vaivasvata Manu. His son (? mithuna or putra) was Ānārta [ Kha : Anarta ]. He had also a daughter who was married to Cyavana. Ānārta's successor was Reva whose viṣaya was Ānārta and whose city was Kuśasthali. Reva's eldest son was Kakudmin who ruled over Kuśasthali. (It appears that Kakudmin's daughter, by name Revatī, was married to Baladeva or Rāma in Dvāravatī. But this is omitted in Kha and Gha.) (Cf. also No. 270.) (86. 23)  
 681a. Kuśasthali—Cy.—After Kakudmin, son of Reva, had gone to that loka (i.e. died ?), the Rākṣasas raided (the city of) Kuśasthali. The hundred brothers of Kakudmin fled away. (88. 1-3)  
 681b. Kuśasthali—Cy.—No. 599.  
 681c. Kuśāvati—Rv.—No. 569.  
 681d. Kuśésaya—Mt.—No. 674.  
 681e. Kusuma—Cy.—There will be a great (Śaisunāka?) king named Udāyin [ Kha and Gha : Udayin ]. By him will be founded the city of Kusuma on the southern bank of the Ganges, [ or according to Gha, Koṇa instead of *Kūla* ] in the fourth year of his reign. [ Na omits the name of Udāyin and refers the foundation of the city to Ajātaśatru who was a predecessor of Udāyin. ] (99. 316-9)  
 681f. Kusumottara—Vr.—No. 1100.  
 681g. Kūṭāsaila—Mt.—No. 130.  
 682. Lampākas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 83)  
 683. Lampākas—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age [ Kha, Ga and Gha : Lampākas ]. (88. 108)  
 684. Lampākas—D.—No. 130.  
 685. Laṅkā—Cy.—Kārtavīrya overcame Rāvaṇa in his Laṅkā and brought him as a captive to Māhiṣmatī. (94. 35)  
 685a. Laṅkā—Cy.—No. 437.  
 686. Lauhitya—Ti.—Holy for śrāddha. It was situated on the banks of the river Vaitaraṇī? (77. 95)  
 687. Lavana—Vr.—Nos. 673, 674.  
 687a. Lāvaṇa—S.—No. 435.  
 688. Lavaṇodadhi—S ?—Nos. 300, 470.  
 689. Lavaṇodaka—S.—No. 989.

690. Lohita—Vr.—No. 1108.  
 691. „ —L.—No. 470.  
 692. „ —F.—No. 470.  
 693. Lohrita—Rv.—No. 130.  
 694. Lomaharṣaṇa—F.—It is situated between the Kailāsa and Pañca-kūṭa mountains. It is 36 × 100 yojanas in area. The forest is impenetrable even to tiny creatures. (38. 33-4)  
 695. Madhaureyas—Ja.—No. 569.  
 696. Madhu—F.—Satrughna, son of Daśaratha, went to the forest named Madhu and killed Mādhava Lavana. There he founded the city of Mathurā. Satrughna had two sons, viz., Subāhu and Śūrasena. With them he protected the city of Mathurā in Vaidehī. (88. 184-6)  
 697. Madhumat—Mt.—No. 1179.  
 698. „ —Mt.—No. 27.  
 699. Mādhvī—Rv.—No. 1278a.  
 700. Madhyadeśa—D.—In connection with the distribution of the śākhās of Yajurveda, Āruni was the foremost in Madhyadeśa. (61. 8-9)  
 701. Madhyadeśas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 81)  
 702. Madhyadeśa—Rg.—No. 130.  
 703. Madhyadeśas—P.—They will be annihilated by Kalki at the end of the Kali age. (98. 106-9)  
 704. Madrā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 705. Mādrakas—Ja.—King Śibi had four sons viz. Vrsadarbha, Suvira, Kekaya and Madraka [ Ņa : Bhadraka ]. Their janapadas were : Kekayas, Mādrakas, Vṛṣadarbhas and Śūcidarbhas [ Ga, Gha and Ņa : Śūcidarbha ]. (99. 23-4)  
 706. Magadha—Rg.—Brhadratha [Gha and Ņa : Mahadratha], a descendant of Puru, was king of Magadha [ Ka reads Bhagadharo, i.e. probably a personal name ]. (99. 221)  
 707. Māgadhas—Rg. ?—The Brhadrathas are mentioned as Māgadheyas [ Ga, Gha and Ņa : Māgadhas ]. One of these, Sahadeva, was killed in the Bhārata war (bhārate saṅgrāme). Jarāsaṁdha also was one of them. (99. 294-6)  
 708. Magadhas—Ja.—The Guptas will rule the following janapadas : Anugaṅga, Prayaga [ Kha, Ga, Gha and Ņa : Anugaṅga-Prayāga i.e. Prayāga situated on the banks of the river Gaṅgā ? ] Sātektu [ Gha : Sāketam ] and Magadhas. (99. 383)  
 709. Māgadhas—Rg. or P ?—Viśvasphāni [ Ga and Gha : Viśvasphāni ] will be the king of Māgadhas. He will annihilate all kings and will create other varṇas, viz., Kaivartas, Pañcakas, Pulindas and Brāhmaṇas. He will set up principalities in various deśas.

- This Viśvasphāni will be as powerful as Viṣṇu. He will destroy the Kṣatra (i.e. the whole Kṣatriya order) and create another Kṣatra. After offering oblations to gods, manes and vipras he will breathe his last on the banks of the river Jāhnavī. [This last sentence is omitted in Ga.] (99. 577-81)
710. Magadhas—D. ?—King Prthu made a gift of Magadhas (i.e. land of Magadhas ?) to Māgadha for his panegyric. Māgadha and Sūta were born in a yajña performed on the occasion of Prthu's consecration. (62. 137-47)
- 710a. Magadhas—D. ?—Nos. 325, 449.
711. „ —Ja.—No. 130<sup>a</sup>.
712. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
713. Mahābhadrā—L.—To the north of Mahābhadrā lake are the following mountains : Śaṅkukūta, Vṛsabha, Hamsa, Nāga, Kapila, Indrasāila, Nīla, Kanakaśṛṅga, Śataśṛṅga, Puspaka, Meghaśāila, Virāja and Jārudhi. (36. 30-33)
714. Mahābhadrā—L.—No. 106.
- 714a. „ —L.—No. 1178.
715. Mahābhaumas—Ja.—No. 108.
716. Mahādruma—Vr.—No. 1099.
717. „ —Vr.—No. 1100.
718. Mahāgaūrī ?—Rv.—No. 130.
719. Mahākeśas—Ja.—No. 108.
720. Mahākūṭa—Mt.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 57)
721. Mahāmegha—Mt.—No. 509.
722. Mahāmūla—Mt.—No. 820.
723. Mahānada—Rv.—No. 130.
724. Mahānāśas—Ja.—No. 569.
725. Mahānetras—Ja.—No. 108.
726. Mahānīla—Mt.—No. 782.
727. „ —Mt.—There are fifteen cities of Kinnaras known as Hayānanas (horse-faced ?) on this mountain. The fifteen kings of Kinnaras, viz., Devasena, Mahābāhu, etc., rule here. These cities have bila entrances or gates (cf. *bila-praveśaiḥ nagaraiḥ*). (39. 32-5)
728. Mahānīla—Mt.—No. 106.
729. Mahāngas—Ja.—No. 569.
730. Mahārāṣṭras—Ja.—No. 130.
731. Mahāśāila—Mt.—No.
732. Mahāsthālas—Ja.—No. 108.
733. Mahātala—Rg.—No. 1048.
734. Mahatī—Rv.—No. 130.
735. Mahāvīta—Vr.—No. 1027.
736. „ —Vr.—No.

737. Mahendra—Mt.—On the Mahendra mountain is the holy abode of Śakra. Bilva trees grow here in abundance. The mountain is holy for śrāddha purposes. (77. 17-8)
738. Mahendra—Mt.—No. 130.
739. „ —The janapadas inhabiting the Mahendra (mountain) will be ruled over by Guha. (99. 386)
740. Māhendri—Cy.—No. 826.
741. Māheyas—Ja.—No. 569.
742. Mahī—Rv.—No. 674.
743. Mahiṣas—Ja.—This janapada will be ruled over by Guha. (99. 386)
744. Mahiṣa—Mt.—No. 1108.
745. Māhiṣakas—Ja.—No. 130.
746. Māhiṣis—P. ?—Śakyamā will be the king of Māhiṣis ( or Māhiṣis ? ) [ Ga, Gha and Na · Mahiṣis ].
747. Mahiṣi—Rv.—No. 569.
748. Māhisikas—P.—No. 345.
749. Māhiṣmatī—Cy.—No. 529.
750. Māhiṣmatī—Cy.—No. 645.
751. Mahivas—Ja.—No. 569.
752. Maināka—Mt. ?—In the northern Mānasa where those (?) of the name Maināka are holy for śrāddha purposes. The same is the case with the southern Mānasa and with Kanakhala in the north ( or with Khanakhala and Udici ? ). (82. 21)
753. Maināka—Mt.—Holy for śraddha purposes. (77. 68)
754. „ —Mt —Submerged in the southern sea. (47. 75)
755. „ —Mt.—No. 607.
756. „ —Mt.—No. 130.
757. Makrunā—Rv.—No. 130.
758. Mālas—Ja.—No. 130.
759. Māladas—Ja.—No. 130. [ Ga · Mālavas. ]
760. Mālavas—Ja.—No. 130<sup>2</sup>.
761. Mālavarṭins—Ja.—No. 130. [ Ga : Malavartins. ]
762. Malaya—Mt.—No. 130.
763. „ —Mt.—No. 437.
764. Malayadvīpa—Dv.—No. 437.
- 764a. Mālinī—Cy.—No. 170.
765. Mālyavat—Mt.—To the east of the Mālyavat (mountain) is a plain (*gaṇḍikā*). The people here are called Bhadrāśvas who enjoy a life of 10,000 years : The people are white (in complexion) and the women-folk are very beautiful. They enjoy the juice of Kālāmra fruits and are thus ever young. There is also here a forest of sāla trees called by the name of Bhadra. (43. 5-9)
766. Mālyavat—Mt.—No. 818.
- ~~767.~~ „ —Mt.—No. 1022.

768. Mālyavat—Mt.—No. 823.  
 769. „ —Vr.—No. 434.  
 770. Mānasa—L.—By going to the north of Mānasa one achieves emancipation (siddhi). There a great wonder is seen and it is a good place for performing śrāddha. There the river Gaṅgā, of the three courses (*tripathagā*) is seen in the sky. From here flow the holy rivers, viz., Candrabhāgā and Sindhu which join the western sea. (77. 108-13)  
 771. Mānasa—L.—No. 820.  
 772. „ —L.—No. 1022.  
 772a. „ —L.—No. 1178.  
 773. Mānasa—L.—No. 470.  
 774. „ —Mt.—752.  
 775. „ —Mt.—No. 1027.  
 776. „ —Vr.—No. 1107.  
 777. „ —Vr.—No.  
 778. „ —Vr.—No. 826.  
 778a. Mandagā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 779. Mandākinī?—Rv.—King Purūravas enjoyed with Uravasi at the following places : Caitraratha, bank (of the river) Mandākinī, spacious (city of) Alakā, Nandaṇa forest, foot of Gandhamādana mountain, Summit of Meru, Uttara-Kuru and Kalāpa-grāma. (91. 6-8)  
 780. Mandākinī—Rv.—Nos. 470, 130.  
 780a. „ —L.—No. 469.  
 781. Mandara—Mt.—The Mahāpuruṣa created by Śiva was like the Mandara. (30. 130)  
 782. Mandara—Mt.—The following mountains are to the east of (Arunoda lake?) or of Mandara? :—Śītānta, Kumunja, Suvira, Vikaṅka, Maniśila, Vṛṣabha, Mahānila, Rucaka, Sabindu, Mandara (?), Veṇumat, Sumedha [Gha and Na : Samedha], and Nisadha. (36. 17-20)  
 783. Mandara—Mt.—No. 819.  
 784. „ —Mt.—No. 816.  
 784a. „ —? —It shakes at the movements of Kārtavīrya's arms. (94. 33)  
 785. „ —Mt.—Nos. 1022, 130, 437, 674.  
 786. Mañcaka—Vr.—Nos. 1099, 1100.  
 787. Mañimat—Mt.—It is inhabited by the Garuḍas. (69. 333)  
 788. Mañiparvata—Mt.—No. 1022.  
 789. Mañisaila—Mt.—No. 168.  
 790. Mañiśila—Mt.—No. 782.  
 791. Mañitaṭā—Rv.—No. 108.  
 792. Mañivaprā—Rv.—No. 108.

793. Maṇivarta—Cy?—Descendants of Hiranyakaśipu are called the residents of Maṇivarta.
794. Mañjamas—Ja.—No. 569.
795. Manojavā—Rv.—No. 606.
796. Manonuga—Vr.—No. 606.
797. Manuga—Vr. ?—No. 608.
798. Mānuṣi—Rv.—No. 569.
799. Māthara—F.—This holy forest is inhabited by Siddhas and Cāraṇas. (77. 33)
800. Mathurā—Cy.—The Nāgas (i.e. Nāga kings) will rule in the beautiful city of Mathurā. (99. 383)
801. Mathurā—Cy.—No. 696.
802. Mātsyas—Ja.—No. 470.
803. Mattakāsikas—Ja.—No. 569.
804. Mātuluṅga—St.—No. 1268.
805. Maunikas—Ja.—No. 130.
806. Mayūra—Mt.—No. 106.
807. Mayūrabarhavarṇa—Mt.—No. 818.
808. Meghā—Rv.—No. 108.
809. Meghaśaila—Mt.—No. 713.
810. Mekalā—?—In Mekalā there will be seven kings. (99. 375)
811. „ —?—No. 888.
812. Meru—Mt.—The following varṣa mountains are described (in the Vāyu Purāṇa) :—Himavat, Hemakūta, Niṣadha, Meru, Nīla [Ga : Nīla], Śveta, and Śṛṅgavat (?) [Kha, Ga, Gha and Na : Śṛṅgin]. (1. 85)
813. Meru—Mt.—Sāvaraṇa and other Manus reside on it. (1. 23)
814. „ —Mt.—In a heavenly and holy cave of Meru mountain Śiva will reside with Viṣṇu in the 28th dvāpara in the Siddha-kṣetra by name Kāyārohana. Śiva's incarnation at this time will be known as Nakulin [Ga, Gha and Na : Lakulin]. (23. 221)
815. Meru—Mt.—This is the *Īśvart māyā* of the universe and this is the Meru mountain known as Devaloka. (24. 86)
816. Meru—Mt. ?—Meru's wife was Dhārāṇī, daughter of the Barhiṣad Pitṛa. She gave birth to a son Mandara and to three daughters. This happened in the Svāyambhuva Manvantara. (30. 30-35)
817. Meru—Mt.—In former times the shining peak of Meru was known throughout the three worlds. It was known as Sāvitra. On its one side dwelt the daughter of the lord of mountains (i.e. Himavat). It was here that the Ādityas, Vasus, the two Aśvins, the best of physicians, Vaiśravaṇa, the king of the Guhyakas, the lord of the Yakṣas and resident of Kailāsa, the great Muni Uśanas, the sages with Sanatkumāra being the foremost amongst them, Aṅgiras and others, the Devarṣis, the Gandharva Viśvāvasu, Nārada and Parvata and the various



ganas of Apsarasas dwelt. It is here that Mahādeva, the lord of the *paśus* (beasts) is worshipped by the Vidyādhara, Siddhas, Bhūtas, Rākṣasas and Pisācas. Here it is that the lord of Nāndin dwells, with his shining śūla, served by the best of rivers (i.e. Gaṅgā) which is the source of water for all the tīrthas. (30. 81-93)

817a. Meru—Mt.—Due to the terrible howling of the Rudras the Meru mountain began to shake. (30. 145)

818. Meru—Mt.—(Continued from No. 435). On the east it is white, hence its *brāhmaṇya*; on the south it is yellow, hence its *vaiśyatva*; on the west it is black, hence its *sūdratā*; on the north it is red, hence its *kṣattratā*. Nīla, Śvetaśrīṅga, Hiraṇmaya (?), Mayūrabharhavarṇa, Śātakaumbha and Śrīṅgavat are the names of its ranges (?). It is in the centre of Ilāvṛta (varṣa ?) which surrounds it (?). It is 9000 yojanas in extent (*vistīrṇaḥ*). In the centre of the Meru mountain is a smokeless fire. It is (compared to or called ?) the southern portion of the sacrificial altar. There are seven varṣa mountains (equal in extent to ?) Jambūdvīpa. They are : Nīla, Niṣadha, Śveta, Hemakūta, Himavat, Śrīṅgavat and (Meru ?). The varṣas defined by them are : the Bhārata-varṣa (defined by Himavat), Kimpuruṣa (defined by Hemakūta), Harivarṣa (defined by the Niṣadha and Hemakūta mountains), Ilāvṛta (defined by Meru), Rāmyaka (defined by Nīla), Hiraṇmaya (defined by Śveta), and Kuru (defined by Śrīṅgavat). The Ilāvṛta varṣa is in the centre with three varṣas to its north and the rest three varṣas to its south. This Ilāvṛta varṣa is to the south of Nīla mountain and to the north of the Niṣadha mountain. To the east is the Mālyavat mountain and to the west, the Gandhamādana mountain [Kha omits information on Gandhamādana]. The Meru is the greatest in this chain of mountains. If the earth is like a lotus the Meru is its petal....Here Devas, Gandharvas, Uragas, Rākṣasas and Apsarasas reside. To its four sides are the following four deśas :—Bhadrāśva, Bharata, Ketumāla, and Uttara-Kurus... Here is a sabhā of Brahmā known as Manovatī throughout the three worlds. Here Isāna, the lord of Śrī, and Indra have their dwellings. Here is a garden created by Jāmbunada (river ?). The great sabhā of Hutāśa, known as Tejovatī, is also situated here on the second *antarataṭa*. On the third *antarataṭa* is a great sabhā of Vaivasvata; on the fourth, that of the lord of Nairṛtya; on the fifth, those of Vaivasvata and Varuṇa, the lord of the sea; on the sixth, that of Vāyu; on the seventh, that of the lord of the Nakṣatras and on the eighth, that of Isāna. (34. 16-93)

19. Meru—Mt.—To the east (of Meru) are the mountains Jāṭhara and Devakūṭa touching (?) the Nīla in the north and the Niṣadha in the south. The Kailāsa and the Himavat are to the south and north respectively (?) extending east-west. Of Meru there are four great pādas (ranges?) which are responsible for the stability of the earth. It is 10,000 yojanas in extent. Devas, Gandharva and Yakṣas [Kha, Ga and Gha omit mention of Yakṣas] dwell here..... To the east is the Mandara, to the south the Gandhamādana, to the west the Vipula and to the north the Supārśva. Yaksas, Gandharvas, Siddhas and Cāraṇas dwell on all these mountains. On the summit of Mandara is a great Keturāt tree known by the name Bhadrāśva. The dvīpa known by the name Bhadrāśva is called after the name of this tree.....(cf. No. 436). On the summit of the Vipula mountain (in the west) grows a great Aśvattha tree. Formerly, on the occasion of the "churning of the ocean", the party of the Daityas had been defeated. To celebrate this victory of the Devas, Sahasrākṣa (i.e. Indra) garlanded, as a form of worship (?), this great Aśvattha tree. This garland (*mālā*) still adorns the tree (Ketu) and thus is the dvīpa called Ketumāla-dvīpa after these two words. On the summit of the Supārśva mountain grows a great Nyagrodha tree attended by Siddhas and Cāraṇas. This is the tree worshipped by (?) the Uttara-Kurus. Here dwell the seven Kurus, the Sanatkumāras, i.e. the seven mind-born sons of Brahman. The dvīpa (in which this Supārśva mountain is) is called after them. (35. 8 ff.)
820. Meru—Mt.—To the south of the Mānasa lake, i.e. also to the south of the Meru mountain, are the following mountains : Rī (or Tri) - śikhara, Śiśira [Gha : Śikhara], Kaliṅga, Pataṅga, Rucaka, Tāmrābha [Gha and Na : Tāmrābhra], Viśākha, Svetodara, Samūla, Visadhāra, Ratnadhāra, Ekaśṛṅga (?) Mahāmūla (?), Gajaśaila, Piśācaka, Kailāsa and Himavat. (36. 21-5)
821. Meru—Mt.—The network of mountains (*giriśāla*) of Meru is called Siddhaloka. Its centre (?) is the same as svarga. (41. 81-2)
822. Meru—Mt.—The earth is spread from the (central) mountain Meru to all the directions. (42. 79)
823. Meru—Mt.—To the west of Meru is the mountain Gandhamādana, to the north is the Nīla, to the south, the Niṣadha and to the east, the Mālyavat mountains. To the south of Nīla and to the north of Niṣadha is situated the Mahāmeru, the centre of all these mountain chains. To the south of Meru and to the north of Niṣadha is a big Jambū tree, named Sudarśana, touching the sky. The *vanaspati* (vegetation?) in Jambūdyīpa is known after it. The local people enjoy the fruits and juice of this

tree and are free from old age..... The thirty three yajñya Suras dwell on the Meru. (46. 17-32)

824. Meru—Mt.—To the west of Meru is a lake whence the river Jāmbunadī flows. (47. 65-6)
825. Meru—Mt.—Meru forms the centre of the earth. (50. 68-70)
826. Meru—Mt.—The following are the cities of Lokapālas in the astronomical sphere (?) :—To the east of Meru, on the head (? *mūrdham*) of Mānasa, is the city (?) of Māhendrī. To the south of Meru, on the head of Mānasa, is the city of Vaivasvata Yama called Saṁyamana; in the same manner to the west is the city of Varuna named Sukhā ; and to the north, the city of Soma named Vibhāvārī. Thus, on the northern surface (*pr̥ṣṭha*) of the Mānasa, the Lokapālas dwell to protect the world and to uphold the dharma. The following is a chart which explains the direction of the movements of the sun in reference to these cities referred to above :—When the sun is at the zenith from Amarāvati it is *udaya* [Gha gives a reading which it is difficult to make out] in Saṁyamana, and it is mid-night [Na gives an unconstruable reading] at Sukhā (?). When it is midnight at Vibhā (i.e. Vibhāvārī) it is sun-set at Māhendrī. It is then *aparāhṇa* in south-east, *pūrvahṇa* in the south, *apararātra* in the Uttarāpatha, and *pūrvārātra* in north-east. If it is mid-day at Sukhā then it is rising sun at Vibhāvārī, the city of Soma [before referring to Vibhāvārī Kha introduces a long passage]. It is mid-night at Amarāvati when the sun sets on the city of Yama. If it is mid-day at Vibhā [Kha and Gha : Vibhāvārī], the city of Soma, then it is rising sun at Amarāvati, mid-night at Saṁyamana and sunset at the city of Varuṇa. (50. 88 ff.)
827. Meru—Mt.—Once upon a time the sages convened a meeting on the Meru mountain and they resolved that whosoever would not be present (at the next meeting) within the period of seven nights he shall be inflicted with the sin of the murder of a Brahmin (*brahmanadhyā*). It so happened that Vaiśampāyana and his followers were not present at this meeting and thus he was inflicted with that sin. This incident led to the division of the Yajurveda. (61. 12 ff.)
828. Meru—Mt.—To the north of all is the Meru. (50. 108)
- 828a. Meru—Mt.—Dakṣa's grandsons practised penance on the Meru. (100. 25-6)
829. Meru—Mt.—The sun wanders about the summit of Meru and circumambulates it. It is the *cakra* (circle) of all the astronomical bodies (*jyotiṣām*). (52. 98-9)

830. Meru—Mt.—The gods had assembled on the Meru and after the incident of Śiva's drinking of poison (i.e. the Kālākūṭa) they dispersed. (54. 101)
831. Meru—Mt.—In the prthvī-dohana incident, Meru "milked" the earth; Himavat was the calf (*vatsa*) and Śaila was the vessel (*pātra*). (62. 190)
832. Meru—Mt.—Manu is still residing on this lovely mountain. (84. 82)
833. Meru—Mt.—Raivata practised penance on the summit of the Meru [Kha and Gha omit this]. (86. 29)
834. Meru—Mt.—Nos. 27, 106, 418, 779.
835. Meru—Mt.—Nos. 394, 435.
836. Minas—P. ?—Minā was a daughter of Ṛṣā (a Piṣācī?). Her progeny is known as the Maina gana. (69. 292-4)
837. Mithilā—Cy.—Nemi was a son of Ikṣvāku. He became *vidēha* due to the curse of Vasiṣṭha. The son of Nemi was Mithi. He was born through the churning of araṇī (*araṇyām mathya-mānāyām*) and hence his name Mithi. He was also called Janaka because of his *janana*. The city of Mithilā was called after his name [This last sentence is omitted in Kha and Gha]. (89. 1-6)
838. Mithilā—Cy.—No. 267.
839. Mleccha—P.—The Pārthivas, Mlecchās and the irreligious Vṛśalas were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. After accomplishing this, Pramiti perished voluntarily in the region between the Gaṅgā and the Yamunā rivers. (58. 88-90)
840. Mleccha—P.—They too make offerings to Pitṛs as do the four varṇas. (83. 110-2)
841. Mleccha—P.—Turvasu, son of king Yayāti, did not accede to the request of his father regarding the exchange of his youth for his father's old age. Yayāti then cursed him that he would be a fool amongst the Mlecchas who follow the habits of beasts (*paṣudharmeṣu mleccheṣu*). (93. 42-4)
842. Mlecchas—P.—When this yuga will come to an end there will be born Kalki of Parāṣara (gotra?) and who will be known as Viṣṇuśaśa. Yājñavalkya will lead him. This Kalki will raise an army composed of armed vipras (i.e. Brahmins) and will proceed to annihilate the following impious (peoples) :—Udīcyas, Madhyadeśas, Vindhyaśas, Aparāntikaśas, Dākṣiṇātyaśas, Dravidaśas, Siṃhalaśas, Gāndhāraśas, Pāradaśas, Palhavaśas, Yavanaśas, Śakaśas, Tuṣāraśas, Barbaras, Pulindaśas, Daradaśas, Khasas, Lampakaśas [Kha, Ga and Gha : Lampākaśas], Andhrakaśas, Rudraśas and Kirātāśas. With a discus (as his weapon?) he will also annihilate the Mlecchas. (98. 103-9)

843. Mlecchas—P.—Pracetas was a descendant of Gandhāra (cf. No. 291). He had a hundred sons who were, all of them, kings. They inhabited in the north and became the rulers of the rāṣṭras of the Mlecchas (*Mleccha-rāṣṭrādhipāḥ sarve*). (99. 11-2)
844. Mlecchas—P.—At the end of the Kali age, the kings will be (practically speaking) Yavanas in matters of dharma and artha and kāma; they will not be consecrated as kings and the evil effects of the age (yuga) will affect them. The offences regarding the murder of women and children will often take place. The janapadas will follow the customs (*ācārāḥ*) of the Mlecchas. The irreligious Pāṣaṇḍas and the Mlecchas will at last be annihilated by Kalki. Thus the word 'nṛpa' (i.e. king) will be heard no more and anarchy, pestilence and disease will follow suit...The Aryas and the Mlecchas will fly to forests. (99. 388-404)
845. Mlecchas—P.—They dwell on the Kailāsa with Yakṣas and Gandharvas. (41. 46)
846. Mlecchas—P.—Nos. 27, 130, 437.
847. Modaka—Vr.—Nos. 1099, 1100.
848. Mṛgakāntā—Rv.—No. 1278A.
849. Mudgalas—P.—One of the fifteen pakṣas of Āṅgirasas. (65. 107)
850. Muditā—Rv.—No. 989.
851. Mukuṇḍa—Mt.—No. 1022.
852. Mukuṭa—Mt.—The habitations of the Pannagas are on the Mukuṭa mountain. (39. 62)
853. Mukuṭa—Mt.—Nos. 27, 1179.
854. Mūlikas—Ja.—No. 130.
855. „ —Ja.—Cf. No.
856. Muṇḍas— —No. 130.
857. Muṇḍapṛṣṭha—?—The tīrtha named Kanakanandi is to the north of Muṇḍapṛṣṭha. (77. 105)
858. Muni—D.—No. 608.
859. „ —Vr.—No. 606.
860. Mūṣikas—Ja.—No. 130.
861. Nāga—Cy.—Nirvaktra, son of Adhisāmakṛṣṇa [ Kha, Gha and Na : Adhisāmakṛṣṇa ], will desert the city of Nāga (?)—which was flooded by the river Gaṅga—and will establish himself in Kauśāmbī. (99. 271)
862. Nāga—Mt.—No. 713.
863. Nāgadeśa—D.—No. 437.
864. Nāgadvīpa—Dv.—No. 130.
865. Nāgapadi—Rv.—No. 108.
866. Nāgāśaila—Mt.—Nos. 106, 519.

867. **Nāgavana**—F.—The region defined by (?) Kauśikī [ Kha and Kh : Kauśilyā ], the sea, the river Gaṅgā and the Añjana mountain is the Nāgavana. ( Another interpretation might be that Nāgavana is to the east of Añjana ). (69. 238)
868. **Naimiṣa**—F.—The sages who started the sacrificial session at Kurukṣetra are called Naimiṣāranya-gocarāḥ. (1. 14-5)
869. **Naimiṣa**—D.—The sages started the sacrificial session at Naimiṣa. This holy deśa is so called because the axle (*nimi*) of the wheel of dharma broke here (*viśtryate*). (1. 183-5)
870. **Naimiṣa**—?—When the rolling axle of the wheel of dharma broke here the place was called Naimiṣa and was revered by sages. (2. 8)
871. **Naimiṣa**—?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 93)
872. „ —Here Śiva will reside in 24th dvāpara ?. (23. 206)
873. **Nairṇikas**—Ja.—No. 130.
874. **Naiṣadha**—Vr.—No. 434.
875. **Naiṣadhas**—?—No. 597.
876. **Nalakālikas**—Ja.—No. 130.
877. **Nalini**—Rv.—No. 470.
878. **Nandā**—Rv.—No. 469.
879. „ —Rv.—No. 1100.
880. **Nandana**—F.—No. 779.
881. **Nandinī**—Rv.—No. 569.
882. **Nārada**—Mt.—It is sub-merged in a sea in the west. (47. 74)
883. „ —Mt.—No. 989.
884. **Narmadā**—Rv.—Havyavāhana (i.e. Agni) loved her. (29. 13)
885. „ —Rv.—Narmadā, the best of rivers, was the daughter of Pitr̥s. The river is holy for śraddha purposes. (29. 32)
886. **Narmadā**—Rv.—Sukālas were a class of Pitr̥s (of Vasiṣṭha?). They were worshipped by śūdras. Their mental daughter ( *mānasī kanyā* ) was Narmadā, the best of rivers. Narmadā was also the wife of Purukutsa and the mother of Trasadasyu. The river Narmadā flows to the Dakṣiṇāpatha. (73. 46-50)
887. **Narmadā**—Rv.—Kārtavīrya Arjuna had trampled on the region about the river Narmadā. (94. 28)
888. **Narmadā**—Rv.—King Jyāmagha took up a bow and entered a dense forest about the marshy tracts carved by the river Narmadā ( Narmadānūpa ) [ Kha, Ga and Ka : Narmadān nṛpa ]. The word Mekalā also occurs along with Narmadā but it is difficult to make out its significance ]. The king also went to the mountain Rkṣavanta ( or Rkṣavat ) and entered the Śukti-manī ( or Śuktimatī river ? ). (95. 30-31)
889. **Narmadā**—Rv.—No. 130<sup>a</sup>.
890. **Nāsikya**—Ja.—( No. 130 ). [ Ka : Nāsika ].

891. Navarāṣṭra—Rg.—King Uśīnara, a descendant of Turvasu, had five wives, viz. Mṛgā [Kha : Nṛgā], Kṛmi, Navā, Darvā and Dṛṣadvātī. The sons of these wives respectively were : Mṛga, Kṛmi, Nava, Suvrata and Śibi. The territorial possessions of these sons respectively were : Yaudheya, city of Kṛmilā, Navarāṣṭra, Ambaṣṭhā (city?) [Kha : Vṛṣṭhā] and Śivapura. (99. 18-27)
892. Nīla ?—Mt.—The varṣapārvata Nīla is described in the Purāṇa. (1. 85)
893. Nīla :—Mt.—Siddhas and Brahmarṣis dwell on the Nīla mountain. (46. 34)
894. Nīla—Mt.—The Payoda lake is situated on this mountain. The rivers Payodā and Puṇḍarikā flow from that lake. (47. 66-7)
895. Nīla ?—Mt.—Nos. 105, 108, 713, 818<sup>3</sup>, 819, 823.
896. „ —Vr.—No. 434.
897. Nīla-Maulayas—Ja.—(No. 108). [Ka : Nīlāsaileyas].
898. Nīlamukhas—Ja.—No. 470.
899. Nīlotpalā—Rv.—No. 130.
900. Nirbandhyā—Rv.—(No. 130). [Gha : Nirvindhya].
901. Nīṣādas—P.—Ekalavya was brought up by the Nīṣādas and hence the (region) Nīṣāda [Ga and Ka : Naiṣadha] etc. was so called (?). (96. 187)
902. Nīṣādas—P.—Nos. 470, 576.
903. Nīṣadha—Mt. This varṣa parvata is described in the Purāṇa (1. 85)
904. Nīṣadha—Mt.—To the north of Nīṣadha and Devaśaila mountains the whole surface of the earth is rocky without any trace of vegetation. A portion of this surface is under water...(37. 28-9)
905. Nīṣadha—Mt.—On the central summit of the mount Nīṣadha is a temple (? āyatana) of Viṣṇu attended by sages, Siddhas, Yakṣas, Gandharvas, and Apsarasas. On another summit in the vicinity is situated a beautiful city of the Rākṣasas named Ulaṅghis [Na : Ulandhis]. To its south is another city the entrance to which is through a cave. On the western summit are situated various cities of Devas, Dānavas and Nāgas [Ka : Bhāgas]. Here is a Somastone (somaśilā) where Soma (i.e. Moon) comes very often. It is here that the sages, Kinnaras and Gandharvas worship Soma, the lord of Tārā. On the northern summit is the place of Brahman, the lord of Suras, who is worshipped by Yakṣas, Gandharvas and Dānavas. Here is also a temple of Fire worshipped by Siddhas and Cāraṇas. (41. 48-61)
906. Nīṣadha—Mt.—The Nāgas, viz., Śeṣa, Vāsuki, Takṣaka, etc. dwell on the Nīṣadha mountain. (46. 34)

907. Niṣadha—Mt.—On the Niṣadha mountain is the Viṣṇupada lake. (47. 64)
908. Niṣadha—Mt.—Nos. 435, 782, 818<sup>3</sup>, 819, 823, 569.
909. Niṣadha—Rg.—Nos.—597, 901.
910. Niṣadhas—Ja.—The Maṇidhānyajas will rule the following janapadas : Niṣadhas, Yadukas, Śaiśītas and Kālatopakas. (99. 384)
911. Niṣadhas—Ja.—No. 130.
912. Niṣadhā—Rv.—No. 130.
913. Niścīrā—Rv.—Nos. 989, 130.
- 913a. Niṣpāpā—Rv.—No. 989.
914. Nivṛtti—Rv.—No. 1108.
915. Omkārapavana— ? —Holy for śrāddha purposes.
- 915a. Pahlavas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 82)
916. Pahlavas—D.—Nos. 130, 345.
917. Pahnava—Ja.—Nos. 130, 470 [ In 130 Kha : Pahlavas ].
918. Pālapañjara—Mt.—Holy for śrāddha purposes. (77. 37)
919. Palāśā—Rv.—No. 569.
920. Palāśinī—Rv.—No. 130.
921. Palhavas—P.—No. 842.
922. Pampā—Rv.—No. 108.
923. Pampāvati—Rv.—No. 108.
924. Pañcakūṭa—Mt.—The Dānavas, the enemies of the Devas, dwell on the Pañcakūṭa mountain. (39. 53)
925. Pañcakūṭa—Mt.—No. 964.
926. Pañcāla— Rg.—Nila, an ancestor of Prsata [ Gha reads differently ] was a king of Pañcāla. He was killed by king Kṛta, who was a compiler of the twenty-four Sāma-Saṁhitās. (99. 189-92)
927. Pañcalas—Rg.—Rikṣa, a descendant of Nila, had five sons, viz., Mudgala, Śrñjaya [ Kha : Sañjaya. Na : Sṛñjaya ], Bṛhadiṣu, Vikrānta (?) and Kāmpilya [ Ka : Kampilya ] [ Na omits the reference to these five sons ]. For the protection of the five (? cf. *pañcānām*) the father said to his sons, "These are the five prosperous janapadas ; protect them." It is thus that the Pañcālas [ Kha and Gha : Pañcālas ] are so called. [ This last sentence is omitted in Na ]. (99. 195-8)
928. Pāñcālas—Ja.—No. 130.
929. Pañcālas—Ja.—No. 470.
930. Pañcavana—F.—The holy Pañcavana is inhabited by pious people. In it is situated the tīrtha named Pāṇḍuvisālā. (77. 99)
931. Pañcavarṇā—Rv.—No. 108.
932. Pāṇḍara—Mt.—No. 1179.
933. Pāṇḍaraka—F.—Holy for śrāddha [ Kha : Piṇḍāraka ]. (77. 37)



934. Pāṇḍukula—Rg.—In Pāṇḍukula, by the sea-shore (*samudrānte*), it is meritorious to perform śrāddha. (77. 37)
935. Pāṇḍura—Mt.—On the Pāṇḍura mountain is situated the city of Vidyādhara. (39. 60)
936. Pāṇḍura—Mt.—Nos. 130, 611.
937. Pāṇḍuśālā—Ti.—No. 930.
938. Pāṇḍyas—Ja.—King Janāpīḍa was a descendant of Turvasu. Pāṇḍya was one of his four sons. His janapada was the Pāṇḍyas. (99. 5-6)
939. Pāṇḍyas—Ja.—No. 130.
940. Pāṇitoyā—Rv.—No. 1108 [ Gha : Yānītōyā ].
941. Pārā (?)—Rv.—No. 130 [ Gha and Na : Pārā ].
942. Parācakas—Ja.—No. 108.
943. Pāradas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 82)
944. Pāradas—P.—Nos. 345, 842.
945. Pāradas—Ja.—No. 470.
946. Parakṣaras—Ja.—No. 130 [ Gha and Na : Paraskaras ].
947. Pārijāta—Mt.—No. 1179 [ Ka Pāripātra ].
948. „ —Mt.—No. 27.
949. Paritas—D.—No. 130.
950. Parivāyas—Ja.—No. 108.
951. Pāriyātra—Mt.—No. 130<sup>2</sup>.
952. Parnamāla—Mt.—One of the mountains inhabited by Garuḍas. (69. 330-3)
953. Pārthivas—P. ?—No. 839.
954. Pārvatīyas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 81)
955. Pāṣaṇḍas—P.— Do. Do.
956. Pāṣaṇḍas—P.—In the Kali age the Śūdra Kings patronize the Pāṣaṇḍas. (58. 40)
957. Pāṣaṇḍas—P.—No. 844.
958. Pātākā—Rv.—No. 108.
959. Pātāla—Rg.—In sea, mountains, sky and Pātāla (i.e. the under-world ?) untraceable are the ways of Cakravartins. (57. 79-80)
960. Pātāla—Rg.—The Asuras in Pātāla were frightened when the sea trembled at the movements of the arms of Kārtavīrya Arjuna. (94. 30)
961. Pātāla—Rg.—Viṣṇu, in the form of Śaṁvartakāśala went to the sea in Pātāla and drank oblations (in the form of the water of the sea ?). (97. 18)
962. Pātāla—Rg.—The Asuras, after having been defeated by the Devas, told Kāvya that they might go to Pātāla. (97. 99)

963. **Pātāla**—Rg.—When Bali was vanquished by Vīmana, the whole of the Virocana-kula entered Pātāla. (98. 86.)
964. **Pātāla**—Rg.—At the time of the Deluge (*pralaya*) all the creatures in the Pātāla and in the oceans come to the surface of the earth and are destroyed. (100. 153)
965. **Pātāla**—No. 1048.
966. **Pātamdharma**—Mt.—No. 130.
967. **Pataṅga**—Mt.—Nos. 31, 820, 1302, 1340.
968. **Paunikas**—Ja.—No. 130.
969. **Pauras** ?—Ja.—No. 569.
970. **Pavanapura**—Cy.—No. 1423.
971. **Pāvani**—Rv.—No. 470.
972. **Pavitrā**—Rv.—No. 674.
973. **Payoda**—L.—No. 894.
974. **Payodā**—Rv.—No. 894.
975. **Payoṣṇī**—Rv.—No. 130.
976. **Pīḍikas**—D.—Nos. 130 [Gha and Na : Cūḍikas].
977. **Pīnas**—D.—No. 130.
978. **Pīṅgala**—Mt.—No. 1179 [Gha : Pīnjara].
979. **Pīnjara**—Mt.—No. 27.
980. **Pippalā**—Rv.—No. 130.
981. **Pisācaka**—Mt.—On the Pisācaka mountain is a great mansion (*bhavana*) of Kubera attended by Yakṣas and Gandharvas. (39. 57)
982. **Pisācaka**—Mt.—Nos. 820.
983. **Pisācikā**—Rv.—No. 130.
984. **Pisāṅga**—Mt.—No. 470.
985. **Pittalas**—Ja.—No. 569.
986. **Pīvara**—D.—No. 608.
987. **Pīvari**—Rv.—No. 569.
988. **Plakṣadvīpa**—Dv. Medhātithi, the lord of Plakṣadvīpa, had seven sons, viz., Śāntabhaya, Śīsira, Sukhodaya [Ga, Gha and Ka : Sukhodadha], Ānanda [Kha and Gha : Ānalda], Dhruva, Kṣemaka and Śiva. Their respective varṣas are called after their names. In Plakṣadvīpa the people observe the rules of varṣāśrama. In Plakṣadvīpa and Śākadvīpa and in the other dvīpas (i.e. ?) the varṣāśrama is followed. (34. 31-6)
989. **Plakṣadvīpa**—Dv.—The Plakṣadvīpa is twice in area to Jambūdvīpa. It encircles the sea named Lavaṇodaka. The janapadas here are holy and the people live a long life without any fear of famine, pestilence and old age. The seven mountains in this dvīpa are : the first is the Gomedaka mountain, after which the Gomedaka varṣa is so called, the second mountain is Candra

where the two Asvins planted trees for obtaining amṛta; the third is the Nārada mountain where Nārada and Parvata were born; the fourth is the Dundubhi mountain where in former times the Suras beat a drum (the reference to Śālmala here is inexplicable); the fifth is the Somaka mountain where in former times the Devas placed amṛta and Garutmat forced it away for the sake of his mother; the sixth is the Sumanas (also called Ṛṣabha), mountain where Varāha killed Hiranyākṣa; and the seventh is the Vaibhrāja mountain so called because of its lustre.

The seven varṣas in this dvīpa are :—The Gomeda is the first varṣa also known by the name Śāntabhaya, [Ka : Śāntamaya] : of Candra the varṣa is Śikhara, of Nārada Sukhodaya, of Dundubhi Ānanda, of Somaka Śiva, of Ṛṣabha Kṣemaka, and of Vaibhrāja Dhruva. Here the Devas, Gandharvas, Siddhas and the Cāraṇas rejoice.

The corresponding seven rivers in these seven varṣas are : Anutaptā, Sutaptā, Nispāpā, Muditā, Kratu, Amṛtā and Sukṛtā. Thus is the river Gaṅgā there with her seven courses (?). These rivers have their own numerous tributaries and they flow (towards the region?) where the rain falls. The following janapadas drink the waters of these rivers: Subhas (?), Śāntavahas, Pramodas, Śivas, Ānandas, Dhruvas and the Kṣemakas. They follow the varṇāśrama, are ever healthy and free from any disease and fear. Here the yugas are not obtained and the conditions are always as in the Tretā age. The people enjoy a life of 5000 years. There is a great Plakṣa tree in this dvīpa whence it has derived its name. This tree is worshipped. (49. 1-28)

990. Plakṣa—Dv.—Nos. 433, 1108.
991. Plakṣaprasāraṇa—?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 67)
992. Plakṣatīrtha—?—No. 666.
993. Prabhāñjanā—Rv.—No. 569.
994. Prabhākara—Vr.—Nos. 673, 674.
995. Prabhāsa—Tī.—In the 27th dvāpara Śiva will be a *dvīja* named Somaśarman who will reside at the Prabhāsa tīrtha. (23. 214-5)
996. Prabhāsa—Tī.—?—Holy for śrāddha purposes. It was situated near the sea (? cf. *mahodadhu*). It is mentioned along with Puṣkara which was also holy for śrāddha. (77. 40)
997. Prabhāsa—Tī.—Having gone to the Preta mountain one should perform śrāddha in Prabhāsa. (82. 20)
998. Prācyas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 81)

999. Prācyas—?—Ālambira and others were the foremost among the Carakas (i.e. a branch of the Black Yajurvedins). (61. 9-10)
1000. Prāgyotiṣas—D.—No. 130.
1001. Pramodas—Ja.—No. 989.
1002. Prāṇa ?—Mt.—The Prāṇa (?) mountain was sub-merged in the northern sea. (47. 73)
1003. Prasthalas—D.—No. 130.
1004. Pratiṅgyas—P. ?—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 81)
1005. Pratiṣṭhāna ?—Tl.—One, who listens to the story of Pratiṣṭhāna, the holy place of Śatakratu (i.e. Indra), will not be affected by any evils. (The place appears to have some connection with king Rāji). (92. 99)
- 1005a. Pratiṣṭhāna ?—Cy.—No. 1009.
1006. Pravaṅgas—D.—No. 130.
1007. Prāvaraka—Vr.—No. 606.
1008. Pravijayas ?—D.—No. 130.
1009. Prayāga—Cy.—King Aila Purūravas ruled in Prayāga, or Pratiṣṭhāna [ Ka : Pratiṣṭhānta ] on the northern banks of the river Yamunā. (91. 50)
1010. Prayāga—Tl.—Śrāddha should be performed in Prayāga on the banks of the Bhāgīrathī river. (77. 92)
1011. Prayāga—Cy. ?—Nos. 667, 708.
1012. Preta—Mt.—No. 97.
1013. Puleyas—Ja.—No. 130.
1014. Pulindas—P. ?—Theirs is the land of sin where śrāddha should not be performed. (78. 69-70)
1015. Pulindas—P. ?—No. 842.
1016. Pulindas—Ja.—Nos. 130, 470.
1017. Puṇḍarika—Tl.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 55.)
1018. Puṇḍarikā—Rv.—No. 506.
1019. Puṇḍarika—Mt.—No. 606.
1020. Puṇḍras—Ja.—Puṇḍra was one of the five sons of king Bali. His janapada was called the Puṇḍras. (99. 34)
1021. Puṇḍras—Cy.—No. 369.
1022. Puṇyodā—Rv.—Soma is the fountain-head of all the waters of the sky. The river Puṇyodā has its source here. With its course guided by the wind it swiftly circumambulates the mountain Meru before it falls on its four northern peaks. From the sky to the Meru its course is of sixty yojanas. From the Meru it has four courses flowing towards the four directions. The eastern course circumvents the Mandara mountain and joins the Aruṇodā lake when it is called Ambaranadī. Then it falls on the Śītānta mountain, a habitat of the Siddhas. Here

the course is called Sitā. Then flowing along the Mukuṣṭha, Sumaṇḍasa, Mālyavat, Vaikaṇka, Maṇiparvata and Rābha mountains it falls on the Jaṭhara mountain whence flowing along the Devakūṭa mountain it waters the Bhadrāsya dvīpa and joins the eastern sea. The southern course crosses the Gandhamādana mountain and waters the Gandhamādana forest. Here this course is called Alakanandā which later joins the northern Mānasa lake. It then flows along the Trisikhara, Kaliṅga, Rucaka, Niṣadha, Tāmrābha, Śvetodara, Sumūla, Vasudhāra, Hemakūṭa, Devaśṛṅga, Piśācaka, Pañcakūṭa and Kailāsa mountains. Then it falls on the Himavat mountain [Gha omits this sentence]. From the Himavat it pours into the southern sea. This river is supported by the god Śaṁkara and that is why it is considered as the holy river Gaṅgā. (42. 1-40)

1023. Punyodā—Rv.—Nos. 108, 569.
1024. Purikā— ? —Śiśuka, (a king of Aṅga dynasty ?) will be ruling in Purikā. (99. 370)
1025. Pūrṇadarvas—D.—No. 130.
1026. Puṣkalā—Rv.—No. 569.
1027. Puṣkara—Dv.—This seventh dvīpa encircles the Kśīroda sea. It is twice in area to Śākadvīpa. There is only one great mountain in this dvīpa and that is the Mānasa. There are only two janapadas in this dvīpa, viz., Mahāvīta and Dhātakikhaṇḍa. The people live a life of 10,000 years. Here there is equality in all respects. The varṇāśrama, the vārtās, cattle-breeding, trade and commerce, the three vidyās and daṇḍa-nīti are not obtained in this dvīpa. The sea named Svādūdaka (Sweet-water) surrounds this dvīpa. (49. 104-22)
1028. Puṣkara— ? —When the sun passes over the centre of Puṣkara one third of the earth is traversed (by the sun) in one muhūrta (?). (50. 119)
1029. Puṣkara— ? —Kaśyapa once performed an aśvamedha in Puṣkara where gods, sages and the Gandharvas were present. (67. 53)
1030. Puṣkara— ? —No. 996.
1031. „ —Mt.—No. 106.
- 1031a. „ —Dv.—Nos. 433, 237.
1032. Puṣkarāvati—Cy.—No. 290.
1033. Puṣpaga—Mt.—No. 130.
1034. Puṣpajāti—Rv.—No. 130.
1035. Puṣpaka—Mt.—No. 509.
1036. „ —Mt.—Munis dwell on the Puṣpaka mountain. (39. 62)
1037. Puṣpavat—Mt.—No. 674.
1038. Raibhyas—P. ?—They were called after Raibhya, the grandson of Kaśyapa. (70. 25-8)

1039. **Raivata**—Mt.—No. 130.
1040. **Rājivakokilas**—Ja.—No. 569.
1041. **Rākṣasas**—Ja.—No. 470.
1042. **Ramanaka**—Vr.—The Ramanaka varṣa is to the south of Sveta and to the north of Nila mountains. The people here are white (in complexion ?) and are handsome in appearance. They drink the juice of the fruits of a big Nyagrodha tree, also called Rohiṇa (i.e. ?). These people live a life of 10500 years. (45. 1-5.)
1043. **Ramaṭas**—D.—No. 130.
1044. **Ramyaka**—Vr.—No. 434.
1045. **Randhrakarakas**—Ja.—No. 470.
1046. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—Lord Hari, in his Vārāha form, entered Rasātala to lift up the earth. (6. 15)
1047. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—Hari lay on the ocean-bed in Rasātala. (25. 33)
1048. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—It is 10,000 (square ?) yojanas in area. Its seven (sub-divisions ?) are : Atala, Sutala, Vitala, Gabhastala, Mahātala, Sṛītala and Pātāla. The first has a black (soil ?), the second white, the third red, the fourth yellow, the fifth like that of sugar (?), the sixth rocky and the seventh golden. In the first are the abodes of Namuci, the lord of Asuras, of Mahānāda and Kabandha. Here are also cities of Śaṅkukarna, Niṣkulāda, Dhanamjaya, Kāliya, Nāga and of Kalasa. In the second are the cities of Daityas such as Mahājambha, Hayagriva Kṛṣṇa, Nikumbha, Saṅkha, Gomukha, Nila, Megh, Krathana, etc. and of Nāgas such as Kambala, Takṣaka, etc. In the third are the cities of Prahāda, Anuhlāda, Tāraka, Śiśumāra, Cyavana, Khara, etc. In the fourth are the cities of Kālanemi, Gajakarṇa, Sumālin, Vainateya, etc. In the fifth are the cities of Virocana, Hiranyākṣa, Mahāmegha, etc. In the sixth are the cities of Kesarin, Puloman, Mahiṣa, Nāga Vāsuki, etc. In the seventh are the cities of Bali, Mucukunda, etc. (50. 9 ff.)
1049. **Rasātala**—Rg.—The liar (*mīthyāvādī*) king entered Rasātala. (57. 109)
1050. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—While offering prayers to Śiva, Dakṣa also pays homage to those who dwell in Rasātala. (30. 281)
1051. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—After being defeated by the Devas, the Asuras proposed to their preceptor Kāvya that they should retire to Rasātala. (97. 95) (98. 46)
1052. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—Defeated by the Devas, the Asuras entered into the Rasātala. (98. 68)
1053. **Rasātala**—Rg. ?—The vicious kings in Rasātala were annihilated by Kṛṣṇa, an avatāra of Viṣṇu. (98. 102) "

1054. Rasātala—Rg. ?—Having scorched the earth the Sadvartaka fire soaked (*aśoṣayat*) the Rasātala. (100. 157)
1055. Rathītaras—P. ?—One of the fifteen pakṣas of Aṅgirasas. (65. 106)
1056. Ratnadhāra—Mt.—No. 584.
1057. Ratnadhātu—Mt.—The seven hermitages of the seven sages are situated on the Ratnadhātu mountain. (39. 45)
1058. Ratnāvati—Rv.—No. 256.
1059. Rātri—Rv.—No. 606.
1060. Rkṣa—Mt.—130.
1061. Rkṣavat—Mt.—Kṛṣṇa started search for Prasena and went so far as the Rkṣavat and Vindhya mountains where he found the dead body of Prasena. (96. 36-40)
1062. Rkṣavat—Mt.—No. 888.
1063. Rohakas—Ja.—No. 470.
1064. Rohita—D.—No.
1065. Rokalas—Ja.—No. 130.
1066. Rṣabha—Mt.—This mountain is sub-merged in the eastern sea. (47. 72)
1067. Rṣabha—Mt.—No. 1022.
1068. Rṣabhā—Rv.—No. 569.
1069. Rāikā—Rv.—No. 130.
1070. Rāikas—Ja.—No. 470.
1071. Rāika ?—Rg.—In the valleys and mountains at the extremity of Rāika people will take shelter at the end of the Kali age. (99. 403)
1072. Rtukulyā—Rv.—No. 130.
1073. Rucaka—Mt.—Nos. 782, 1022.
1074. Rudra—Mt.—No. 11179.
1075. Rudras—P. ?—No.
1076. Rudravaṭa—F. ?—At the end of the Kali age Śiva will reside in the holy Rudravaṭa [ Kha : Rodravana ]. (23. 212).
1077. Ruṣā—Rv.—No. 569.
1078. Ruṣāpas—Ja.—No. 470.
1079. Śabala—F.—No. 566.
1080. Śabaras—P. ?—Their country is the land of sin where śrāddha ought not to be performed. (78. 69-70)
1081. Sabindu—Mt.—No. 782.
1082. Saddūhukas—P. ?—No. 470.
1083. Śāḍvala—F.—Sāmjñā, wife of Vivasvat practised penance in the Śāḍvala [ Ka and Ga : Śādvala ] forest. (84. 68)
1084. Sahacaiṣṭkas—Ja.—No. 130.
1085. Sahasraśikhara—Mt.—The city of the Daityas is situated on the Sahasraśikhara mountain. (39. 61)
1086. Sahasraśikhara—Mt.—This mountain is inhabited by the Garut-mats. (69. 333)

1087. **Sahasraśikhara**—Mt.—Nos. 27, 644, 1179.
1088. **Sabotkacas**—Ja.—No.—569.
1089. **Sahya**—Mt.—No. 130<sup>a</sup>.
1090. **Śailoda**—L.—No. 470.
1091. **Śailodā**—Rv.—No. 470.
1092. **Saindhavas**—Ja.—No. 470.
1093. **Śaiśitas**—Ja.—No. 910.
1094. **Saivāla**—Mt.—No. 108.
1095. **Saivālas**—Ja.—No. 108.
1096. **Śaivālinī**—Rv.—No. 108.
1097. **Sajāñgalas**—Ja.—No. 130.
1098. **Śakas**—P.—Nos. 130, 345, 470, 842.
1099. **Śākadvīpa**—Dv.—Havya, lord of Śākadvīpa, had the following seven sons : Jalada, Kumāra, Sukumāra, Mañcaka [ Na : Mañivaya ], Vasumoda, Sumodāka [ Kha, Ga and Gha : Samodāka; Na : Samaudāka ] and Mahādruma. Their respective varṣas were : Jalada, Kumāra, Sukumāra, Mañcaka, Vasumodaka, Modāka and Mahādruma. (33. 16-20)
1100. **Śākadvīpa**—Dv.—This dvīpa is twice in area to the Krauñcadvīpa and it encircles the Dadhimaṇḍodaka sea. The people here live a long life and there is no fear of famine, pestilence and old age for them. The seven mountains in this dvīpa are as follows : The first is the Meru mountain extending towards the east and is also called Udaya. Here Devas, sages and Gandharvas reside. Here the clouds rise and there is rainfall. The second is the Jaladhāra mountain where the rain-god (Vāsava) is always active in the rainy season. The third is the Raivatāka mountain whence is seen (?) the nakṣatra Revatī. Then comes the Syāma mountain whence the people had become black (*tyāmatvaṃ āpannāḥ*). Then come the Asta, Āmbikeya [ Kha, Gha and Na : Ambikāyā ], Ramya which is also called Keśari. The corresponding varṣas are : Jalada, Sukumāra, Kaumāra, Mañcaka, Kusumottara, Modāka and Mahādruma. At the centre of this dvīpa is a great Śāka tree which is an object of worship. With it the Devas, Gandharvas, Siddhas and Cāraṇas sport. The seven rivers in this dvīpa are : Sukumārī also known as Anutaptā, Kumārī, Nandā, Śivetikā [ Kha and Na : Śivenikā ] also known as Tridivā, Ikṣu, Dhenukā and (?). These rivers have their own numerous tributaries which flow towards the region where the rains fall. There are many cities and prosperous janapadas in this dvīpa which is surrounded by the Kṣīroda sea. Here the varṇāśrama system works smoothly, the people being free from vices, such as, greed, anger, etc. Here taxation and laws do not exist. (49. 72-104)



1101. Śākadvīpa—Dv.—No. 433.  
 1102. Śākamuṇḍas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1103. Śākavati—Rv.—No. 569.  
 1104. Śāketu—Rg. ?—No. 708.  
 1105. Śākhāvati—Rv.—No. 108.  
 1106. Śālagrāma—Cy. ?—Holy for śrāddha purposes. (77. 88)  
 1107. Śālma—Dv.—Vapuṣmat, the lord of Śālma (i.e. Śālmala) dvīpa, had the following seven sons : Śveta, Harita, Jimūta, Rohita, Vaidyuta, Mānasa and Suprabha. The territories (assigned to them ?) were called after their respective names. (33. 28-31)  
 1108. Śālmala—Dv.—The third dvīpa named Śālmala is twice in area to Plakṣadvīpa. It circumvents the Ikṣurasodaka sea. The seven mountains in this dvīpa are : Kumuda, Unnata, Balāhaka, Droṇa, Kaṅka (wrongly mentioned as the tenth) Mahiṣa and Kakudmat. The corresponding seven varṣas are : Śveta, Lohita, Jimūta, Harita, Vaidyuta, Mānasa and Suprabha. The rivers in this dvīpa are : Pāṇitoyā, Viṭṭṇā, Candrā, Śukrā, Vimocanī and Nivṛtti. This dvīpa is named after a great *śālmali* tree in it. The Suroda sea surrounds this dvīpa. (49. 28-45)  
 1109. Śālmaladvīpa—Dv.—It is inhabited by the Garutmats. (69. 332)  
 1110. „ —Dv.—Nos. 229, 433, 674.  
 1111. Śālvas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1112. Samāheya—P. ?—No. 130.  
 1113. Saṁbhavaktras—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1114. Samudramālā—Rv.—No. 569.  
 1115. Samūla—Mt.—Nos. 147, 820.  
 1116. Saṁyamana—Cy.—No. 826.  
 1117. Saṁdhyā—Rv.—No. 606.  
 1118. Śāṅkhadvīpa—Dv.—No. 437.  
 1119. Śāṅkhagiri—Mt.—No. 337.  
 1120. Śāṅkhakūṭa—Mt.—No. 106.  
 1121. Śāṅkhākyas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1122. Śāṅkhanāgā.—Rv.—No. 437.  
 1123. Śāṅkukūṭa—Mt.—Nos. 713, 1473.  
 1124. Śāṅkṛtikas—P. ?—One of the fifteen pakṣas of Aṅgirasas. (65. 106-8)  
 1125. Śāntabhaya—Vr.—No. 988.  
 1126. Saṁtati—Rv.—No. 674.  
 1127. Śāntavahas—Ja.—No. 989.  
 1128. Śāntī—Rv.—No. 1278.  
 1129. Sarasa—Mt.—No. 27.  
 1130. Saraśvati—Rv.—Agni loved her [ Omitted in Nā ]. (29. 12-4)  
 1131. „ —Rv.—Nos. 130, 143, 1320.  
 1132. „ —Mt. ?—No. 385.

1133. Śaravaṇa—F.—Nos. 380, 469. (29. 12-4)  
 1134. Sarayū—Rv.—Agni loved her [ Omitted in Na ].  
 1135. „ —Rv.—Nos. 130, 470.  
 1136. Sarvamūlikas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1137. Sasurasa—Mt.—Nos. 130.  
 1138. Śatadru—Rv.—Agni loved her [ Omitted in Na ]. (29. 12-4)  
 1139. „ —Rv.—No. 130.  
 1140. Śātakaumbha—Mt.—No. 818.  
 1141. Śatapathesvaras—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1142. Śataśṛṅga—Mt.—The Yakṣas have their cities on this mountain. (39. 54)  
 1143. Śataśṛṅga—Mt.—The Garutmats dwell on the Śataśṛṅga mountain. (69. 333)  
 1144. Śataśṛṅga—Mt.—Nos. 106, 713.  
 1145. Ṣaṭsuras—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1146. Śatīrā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1147. Saumya—Rg.—No. 130.  
 1148. Sauvīras—Ja.—Nos. 108, 130.  
 1149. Sāvitra—Mt.—No. 817.  
 1150. Sāyana—L.—No. 370 [ Kha : Akṣada ].  
 1151. Setukas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1152. Siddhakṣetra—Tl. ?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 80)  
 1153. „ —Tl. ?—Nos. 22, 392, 814, 1155.  
 1154. Sigapaṇas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1155. Śikhaṇḍin—Mt.—In the 18th dvāpara, Śiva will be known as Śikhaṇḍin and he will reside with his four sons in the Siddhakṣetra in the Śikhaṇḍin mountain on the summit of the Himavat. (23. 181-3)  
 1156. Śikhara—Vr.—No. 989.  
 1157. Śikhi—Mt.—Nos. 27, 1268.  
 1157a. Śikhimālā—Rv.—No. 569.  
 1158. Śikhiśaila—Mt.—No. 1179.  
 1159. Śilāśinī—Rv.—No. 108.  
 1160. Śirṃhalas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 82)  
 1161. Śirṃhalas—No. 842.  
 1162. Sindhu—Rv.—In the land to the north of the river Sindhu the āśramadharma does not prevail and there śrāddha should not be performed. (78. 23)  
 1163. Sindhu—Rv.—The region to the north of the river Sindhu is a land of sin. The virtuous evade contact with its inhabitants. Here śrāddha ought not to be performed. (78. 69-70)  
 1164. • Sindhu—Rv.—Nos. 130\*, 470, 770.  
 1165. Śindhus—D.—No. 130.

1166. Sindhumaru—Rg.—No. 470.  
 1167. Śiprā—Rv.—No. 130 [ Gha and Ōa : Kṣiprā ].  
 1168. Sirindhras—D.—No. 470.  
 1169. Śisira—Mt.—No. 820.  
 1170. „ —Vr.—No. 988.  
 1171. Śisoccaya—Mt.—This mountain is sub-merged in the northern sea. (47. 73)  
 1172. Sitā—Rv.—Agni loved her [ Omitted in Ōa ]. (29. 12-4)  
 1171. „ —Rv.—Nos. 1022, 470.  
 1173a. „ —Rv.—No. 108.  
 1174. Sitānta—Mt.—This mountain is inhabited by Yakṣas, Kinnaras and Gandharvas. In it is a pleasure-garden (Kṛīḍāvana) of Mahendra. This garden or forest (?) is also known as Pārijāta-vana. There is always spring-time in this forest. To the east of Sitānta is the Kumūñja (or Kumuda) mountain on which are situated the eight cities of the Dānavas. (39. 1-29)  
 1175. Sitānta—Mt.—Nos. 655, 782, 1022, 1461.  
 1176. Siterajā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1177. Śitibāhu—Rv.—No. 130 [ Ga, Gha and Ōa : Śiyudeva ].  
 1178. Śītoda—L.—The four great lakes are : Arunoda in the east, Mānasa in the south, Śītoda in the west and Mahābhadrā in the north. (36. 15-7)  
 1179. Śītoda—L.—To the west of this lake are the following mountains : Suvakṣas, Śikhīśaila, Kāla (?), Vaidūrya [ Kha and Ōa : Vaidūrya ], Kapila, Pingala [ Gha : Pīñjara ], Rudra, Surasa, Kumuda, Madhumat, Añjana, Mukuta, Kṛṣṇa, Pāṇḍara, Sahasra-śikhara (?), Pārijāta [ Ka : Pāripātra ] and Triśṅga. (36. 26-9)  
 1180. Sitoda—L.—No. 27.  
 1181. Śiva—Vr.—Nos. 988, 989.  
 1182. Śivas—Ja.—No. 989.  
 1183. Śivā—Rv.—No. 674.  
 1184. Śivapauras—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1185. Śivapura—Cy.—No. 891.  
 1186. Śivetikā—Rv.—No. 1100.  
 1187. Skandamālā—Rv.—No. 108.  
 1188. Sodakas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1189. Somaka—Mt.—This mountain is sub-merged in the western sea. (47. 74)  
 1190. Somaka—Mt.—No. 989.  
 1191. Somāvarttā—Rv.—No. 108.  
 1192. Śoṇa—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1193. Sopasaṅgas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1194. Śravaṇas—Ja.—No. 569.

1195. Śrāvastī—Cy.—Śrāvasta was a son of Yuvanāśva, a descendant of Ikṣvāku. This Śrāvasta founded the city of Śrāvastī. (88. 26-7)
1196. Śrāvastī—Cy.—No. 599.
1197. Śrī—Mt.—The Candratīrtha is inhabited by the virtuous. In this tīrtha, in Kumārī, at the source of the river Kāverī, in tīrthas on the Śrīparvata and on the Vaiṣṇava mountain, śrāddha should be performed. [Ka, Ga, Gha and Na omits this information]. (77. 28)
1198. Śrī—Mt.—No. 130.
1199. „ —F.—No. 146.
1200. „ —L.—No. 146.
1201. Śrīrāstra—Rg.—It will be ruled over by one Kanaka [Kha, Ga and Na : Śrīrājya]. (99. 387)
1202. Śrītala—Rg.—No. 1048.
1203. Śrīngasāhva—Mt.—No. 406.
1204. Śrīngavat—Mt.—It is described in the Purāṇa [Kha, Ga, Gha and Na : Śrīngin]. (1. 85)
1205. Śrīngavat—Mt.—The Pitr̥s live on the Śrīngavat mountain. (46. 35)
1206. „ —Mt.—No. 818<sup>3</sup>.
1207. „ —Vr.—(No. 434). [Kha and Na : Śrīngavāta].
1208. Śronī—Rv.—No. 130.
1209. Stanapas—D.—(No. 130). [Ga : Stanakas ; Gha : Stanasas].
1210. Stāvakas—Ja.—No. 569.
1211. Śubhā—Rv.—No. 569.
1212. Śubhas—Ja.—No. 989.
1213. Subhaumas—Ja.—No. 108.
1214. Sūcidarbhas—Ja.—No. 705.
1215. Śuddhas—Ja.—No. 108.
1216. Śūdras—D.—No. 130.
- 1217.—Suhmas—Ja.—Suhma was one of the five sons of king Bali, a descendant of Yayāti. His janapada was known as the Suhmas [Ka : Suhlakas]. (99. 33)
1218. Sujarakas—D.—No. 130.
1219. Sukāmas—Ja.—No. 108.
1220. Śukanadi—Rv.—No. 569.
1221. Sukeśa—Mt.—Inhabited by the Garutmats.
1222. Śukhā—Cy.—No. 826.
1223. Sukhodaya—Vr.—Nos. 988, 989.
1224. Śukhā—Rv.—No. 1108.
1225. Sukrtā—Rv.—No. 989.
1226. Śuktimat—Mt.—No. 130<sup>2</sup>.
1227. Śuktimatī—Rv.—(No. 130). [Na : Muktimatī].
1228. Sukumāra—Vr.—Nos. 1099, 1100.
1229. Sukumārī—Rv.—Nos. 130, 1100.

1230. Śulikas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 83)
1231. Sumanas—Mt.—No. 989.
1232. Sumaṅgalas—Ja.—No. 108.
- 1232a. Sumaṅjas—Mt.—No. 1022.
1233. Sumaulas—Ja.—No.—569.
1234. Sumedha—Mt.—Between the Veṇumat and Sumedha mountains is an extensive valley (?). (37. 26-7)
1235. Sumedha—Mt.—Ādityas, Vasus, Rudras and the two Āśvins have their dwellings on this mountain. Here the Siddhas have built houses (*sthānāni*) for the gods where Yakṣas, Gandharvas and Kinnaras are always engaged in worship. (39. 48-50)
1236. Sumedha—Mt.—No. 882.
1237. Sumedhā—Rv.—No. 569.
1238. Sumeru—Mt.—The Mahāpuruṣa created by Śiva was like the Sumeru. (30. 130)
1239. Sumeru—Mt.—Svayambhu 'churned' the earth with Sumeru as the calf (*vatsa*). (8. 148)
1240. Sumeru—?—No. 434.
1241. Sumūla—Mt.—No. 1022.
1242. Sumūlā—Rv.—No. 569.
1243. Sumūrdhajas—Ja.—No. 108. [Gha : Sumūlajas].
1244. Sunāga—Mt.—Here the Daityas have their dwellings. (39. 36)
1245. Sunaga—Mt.—No. 106.
1246. Śunakāsas—Ja.—No. 569.
1247. Śunāmukhas—Ja.—No. 470.
1248. Sunandana—F.—No. 1422.
1249. Sunandanas—Ja.—No. 108.
1250. Sunāsa—Cy.—No. 229.
1251. Supakṣa—Mt.—Vaivasvata, Soma, Vāyu and the lord of the Nāgas have their dwellings on the Supakṣa mountain. (39. 63)
1252. Supakṣa—Mt.—No. 27.
1253. Supārēva—Mt.—Nos. 106, 819.
1254. Suprabha—D.—No. 1107.
1255. „ —Vr.—No. 1108.
1256. Supratika—F.—To the north of the Vindhya and to the south of the river Gaṅgā is the forest of Supratika. (69. 239)
1257. Suprayogā—Rv.—No. 130.
1258. Surālas—Ja.—No. 130.
1259. Surasa—Mt.—No. 1179.
1260. Surasā—Rv.—No. 108.
1261. Śūrasenas—Ja.—No. 130.
1262. Surāṣṭras—Ja.—No. 130.
1263. Surāvatī—Rv.—No. 108.

- 1263a. Surecakas—Ja.—No. 569.
1264. Sūrpākāras—Ja.—No. 130.
1265. Sūryakānta—Mt.—Nos. 180, 660.
1266. Sutala—Rg.—No. 1048.
1267. Sutaptā—Rv.—No. 989.
1268. Suvakṣas—Mt.—Between the Suvakṣas and Śikhi mountains is a rocky tract covering about a hundred yojanas. At its centre is a fire-place which is thirty yojanas in extent. Here the lord of Fire is always active. The Mātuluṅgasthali [ Na : Mātluṅgasthali ] which covers ten yojanas is also situated here with the hermitage of Brhaspati in it. (38. 37-44)
1269. Suvakṣas—Mt.—No. 1179.
1270. Suvaprā—Rv.—Nos. 108, 569.
1271. Suvarṇā—Rv.—Nos. 108, 569.
1272. Suvarṇakāṭakas—Ja.—No. 569.
1273. Suvīra—No. 782.
1274. Svairathākāra—Vr.—Nos. 673, 674.
1275. Svapārśva—Mt.—No. 819.
1276. Svarṇavedī—?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 95)
1277. Śveta—Mt.—This varṣa-parvata is described in the Purāṇa. (1. 85)
1278. Śveta—Mt.—The Daityas and the Dānavas dwell here. (46. 35)
- 1278a. „ —Mt.—On the Śveta mountain is the Uttaramānasa lake whence flow the rivers : Jyotsnā, Mrgakāntā, Śāntī [ Kha : Śaptā and Mādhyā ]. (47. 67-71)
1279. Śveta—Mt.—Nos. 27, 106, 406, 818\*, 1042.
1280. „ —Vr.—Nos. 434, 1107, 1108.
1281. Śvetas—Ja —No. 569.
1282. Śvetāṅgas—Ja.—No. 569.
1283. Śvetasṛṅga—Mt.—No. 818.
1284. \* Śvetavarṇa—Mt.—No. 108.
1285. Śvetodara—Mt.—On this mountain is the city of Sunābha, son of Garuḍa. (39. 56)
1286. Śvetodara—Mt.—Nos. 820, 1022.
1287. Śyāmā—Rv.—No. 569.
1288. Śyāma—Mt.—No. 1100.
1289. Takṣaśilā—Cy.—No. 290.
1290. Tāla—F.—This forest is situated along the bank of the river Sukhā between the Mahānila and Kumunīja mountains. It is 50 × 30 yojanas in area. Here dwells Airāvata, the lord of elephants. (37. 22-5)
1291. Tālajāṅghas—P.—No. 345.
1292. Tāmalīptas—Ja.—No. 470.
1293. Tamasā—Rv.—No. 130.

1294. Tāmasas—D.—No. 130.  
 1295. Tāmasī—Rv.—No. 569.  
 1296. Tampākas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1297. Tāmrābha—Mt.—On it is the city of Kādraveya Takṣaka. (39. 54)  
 1298. „ —Mt.—Nos. 820, 1022.  
 1299. Tāmraliptas—P ?—The Manidhānyajas will rule over the Tāmraliptas together with the sea (cf. *Tāmraliptān sasāgarān*). (99. 385-6)  
 1300. Tāmraliptakas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1301. Tāmravarṇī—Rv.—No. 332.  
 1302. Tāmravarṇa—Mt.—Between the Tāmravarṇa and Pataṅga mountains there is a holy lake inhabited by the Devas, Dānavas and Urugas. In the centre of this lake (?) is a janapada hundred yojanas in extent. The great city of the Vidyādharas is situated here where Puloman, the lord of the Vidyādharas dwells. (38. 8-17)  
 1303. Tāmravarṇī—Rv.—No. 130 [Tāmravarṇā].  
 1304. „ —Rg.—No. 130.  
 1305. Tanapas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1306. Taṅgaṇas—D.—No. 130<sup>2</sup>.  
 1307. „ —Ja.—No. 470.  
 1308. Tāpasas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1309. Tāpī—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1310. Tatsukhas—Ja.—No. 569.  
 1311. Tilāṅgas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1312. Tomaras—D.—No. 130.  
 1313. „ —P. ?—No. 470.  
 1314. Tosalas—P.—No. 130.  
 1315. Toyā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1316. Traipuras—P.—No. 130.  
 1316a. Traisāṅkava—D.—This deśa is a taboo for śraddha purposes. It is to the north of the Mahānadi and to the south of Kaikaṭa (i.e. ?). (78. 22)  
 1317. Tridivā—Rv.—No. 130<sup>2</sup>.  
 1318. Trigartas—D.—No. 130.  
 1319. Trikaku—H.—No. 470.  
 1319a. Trikūṭa—Mt.—No. 437.  
 1320. Triplakṣa—Tī.—Śraddha should be performed in the Vyāsa tīrtha on the banks of the river Sarasvatī and in the Triplakṣa (also on the banks of the Sarasvatī ?). [Ka reads Brahmakṣetra for Triplakṣa]. (77. 67)  
 1321. Trisāmā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1322. Triśikhara—Mt.—No. 820, 1022.

1323. **Triśṛṅga**—Mt.—On this northern mountain is a great city graced by the three temples of the three chief gods, viz., Viṣṇu, Brahmā and Śiva worshipped by the Daityas, Dānavas, Gandharvas, Yakṣas, Rākṣasas and Paunagas. The cities of the Yakṣas, Gandharvas and Nāgas are also situated on this mountain. (41. 62-5)
1324. **Triśṛṅga**—Mt.—Nos. 106, 1179.
1325. **Tumburas**—P.—Nos. 130, 576.
1326. **Tumuras**—P.—No. 130.
1327. **Tundikeras**—P.—No. 130.
1328. **Tuṅgabbadrā**—Rv.—No. 130.
1329. **Turasitas**—D.—No. 130. [Gha and Na : Turaminas].
1330. **Tuṣāras**—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 83)
1331. **Tuṣāras**—P.—No. 842.
1332. „ —D. No. 130.
1333. „ —Ja.—No. 470.
1334. **Udaya** ?—Mt.—No. 1100.
1335. **Udbhida**—Vr.—Nos. 673, 674.
1336. **Udbhidas**—Ja.—No. 130.
1337. **Udīcyas**—P.—In connection with the distribution of the śākhās of the Yajurveda Śyāmāyani was the foremost amongst the Udīcyas. (61. 8)
1338. **Udīcyas**—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of the Kali age. (58. 81)
1339. **Udīcyas**—P.—No. 842.
1340. **Udumbara**—F.—This forest is situated between the Śisīra and Pataṅga mountains. Here the Siddhas, Yakṣas, Gandharvas, Kinnaras, Urugas and Vidyādhara have their dwellings. The hermitage of Kardama, the Prajāpati, is also seen in this forest which covers an area of about 100 yojanas. (38. 1-7)
1341. **Ujjanta**—Mt.—On this holy mountain is an abode of Yogeśvara and a hermitage of Vasiṣṭha. (77. 52)
1342. **Umātuṅga**—H.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 82)
1343. **Umāvana**—F.—King Sudyumna happened to enter Umāvana while he was out for hunting and he was immediately converted into a female. (85. 27-8)
1344. **Umāvana**—F.—No. 469.
1345. **Unnata**—Mt.—No. 1108.
1346. **Uraḥsarmkīrṇabhaumakas** ?—Ja.—No. 108.
1347. **Ūrdhvararus**—Ja.—No. 470.
1348. **Uṣṇa**—D.—No. 608.
1349. „ —Vr.—No. 606.
1350. **Uṣṭrakarṇas**—Ja.—No. 470.



1351. Utakacas—Ja.—No. 569.
1352. Utkala—Rg.—King Sudyumna had three sons, viz., Utkala, Gaya and Vinatāśva. Of these Utkala had Utkalarāṣṭra and Gaya the city of Gayā. (85. 18-9)
1353. Utkalas—P.—No. 130.
1354. Uttamārṇas—Ja.—No. 130.
1355. Uttarakurus—Rg.—Nos. 106, 180, 779, 818, 819.
1356. Uttaramānasa—L.—No. 1278a.
1357. Vācāṅgas—Ja.—No. 569.
1358. Vadātis—Ja.—No. 470.
1359. Vādavas—P. ?—No. 1322.
1360. Vāhā—Rv.—No. 569.
1361. Vāhas—Ja.—No. 569.
1362. Vāhakas—P. ?—A class of Bhūmirākṣasas. (69. 184)
- 1362a. Vāhlikas—D.—No. 130.
1363. Vaibhrāja—F.—It is to the west of (?) and the Nandana forest is to the south of (?). (36. 11)
1364. Vaibhrāja—F.—No. 470.
1365. „ —Mt.—No. 989.
1366. Vaidarbhas—Ja.—No. 130.
1367. Vaideśa—Rg.—Bhūtinanda, the fifth king of a Nāga dynasty will rule in Vaideśa [ Gha reads vaśśa thus dispensing with a geographical name ]. (99. 366-8)
1368. Vaidūrya—Mt.—Nos. 27, 1179.
1369. Vaidyuta—H.—No. 470.
1370. „ —Mt.—No. 130.
1371. „ —Vr.—Nos. 1107, 1108.
1372. Vaihāra—Mt.—No. 130.
1373. Vaikaṅka—Mt.—Birds, the enemies of the Pannagas, dwell on the Vaikaṅka mountain. Sugrīva is their chief. (39. 41)
1374. Vaikaṅka—Mt.—No. 1022.
1375. Vaikṛta—Mt.—No. 1197.
1376. Vainakas—P. ?—A class of bhūmi-rākṣasas. (69. 184)
1377. Vaiṇī—Rv.—No. 150.
1378. Vaitaraṇī—Rv.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 95)
1378. „ —Rv.—No. 130.
1379. Vajraka—Mt.—On the Vajraka mountain dwell the Nīlaka Rākṣasas. (39. 30-1)
1380. Vakra—Mt.—This mountain is sub-merged in the southern sea. (47. 75)
- 1380a. Vaktrā—Rv.—No. 108.
1381. Vakulas—Ja. ?—No. 569.
1382. Vāmanaka—Mt.—No. 606.
1383. Vāmodā—Rv.—No. 108.

1384. Vanamālā—Rv.—No. 108.
1385. Vanapātakas—Ja.—No. 569.
1386. Vanāsagajabhūmikas—Ja.—No. 569.
1387. Vanavāsikas—Mt.—No. 130.
1388. Vaṅgas—Ja.—Vaṅga was one of the five sons of king Bali, a descendant of Yayāti. His janapada was known as the Vaṅgas. (99. 33)
1389. Vaṅgas—Rg.—There the people will fly at the end of the Kali age. (99. 402)
1390. Vaṅgas.—Ja.—Nos. 470, 569<sup>2</sup>.
1391. Vāṅgas—Ja.—No. 569.
1392. Vaṅgeyas—Ja.—No. 130.
1393. Vañjulā—Rv.—No. 130.
1394. Varṇśadharā—Rv.—No. 130.
1395. Vapuṣmatī—Rv.—No. 108.
1396. Varāha—Mt.—This mountain is sub-merged in the western sea. (39. 74)
1397. Varāha—Mt.—Nos. 105, 437.
1398. Vārāhas—Ja.—No. 108.
1399. Varāhadvīpa—Dv.—No. 437.
1400. Vārāhī—Rv.—No. 437.
1401. Vārāṇasī—Tī. ?—Śiva in his Lāṅgalin incarnation will reside in Vārāṇasī. (23. 198)
1402. Vārāṇasī—Cy.—Śraddha should be performed in the city of Vārāṇasī. (77. 93)
1403. Vārāṇasī—Cy.—The following is the story of how this siddha-kṣetra happened to be cursed by Nikumbha :—The royal sage Divodāsa was in former times ruling over this prosperous city. It so happened that at this very time Maheśvara was recently married and was residing with his father-in-law. Menā, however, disliked him and passed adverse comments about his behaviour to her daughter (cf. *mama pārśve tu anācāras tava bhartā maheśvaraḥ daridraḥ sarva eva iha akliṣṭam laḍate' naghe*). The wife of Śiva took offence at this statement and pressed upon her husband to shift to their own place. (It appears Śiva had no such fixed place of residence.) Śiva thought for some time over the matter and commanded his attendant Gaṇeśa Kṣemaka to render desolate the city of Vārāṇasī. Nikumbha (i.e. Kṣemaka) appeared before the barber named Maṅkana in his dreams and directed him to instal his (i.e. of Gaṇeśvara Kṣemaka) image at (or outside) the gates of the city. Since that time this Gaṇeśvara became an object of worship especially for women who desired male progeny. King Divodāsa, as he had no son, asked his wife to offer worship to the deity ;

but all her efforts were in vain at which the king got wild and cursing the deity as *bhūtaṃ* (note neuter) destroyed the place of worship (cf. *sthānam Gaṇapates tasya nāṣayāmāsa*). Thus did Nikumbha curse the city to become desolate. The king deserted the city and founded another city on the river Gomati.. Śiva now resided with his wife in this deserted city... After the effect of the curse was over, Alarka, the king of Kāśi, who was a descendant of Divodāsa, took possession of the city after annihilating the Rākṣasa Kṣemaka. (92. 24-68)

1404. Vārāṇasī—Cy.—Bhadraśreṇya was king of Vārāṇasī. (94. 6)
1405. „ —Rv.—No. 325.
1406. Vāraṇāvata—Rv.—No. 267.
1407. Varapas—Ja.—No. 470.
1408. Varas—Ja.—No. 130.
1409. Vardhamāna—Mt.—No. 569.
1410. Varṇamālāgra—Mt.—( No. 108 ). [ Na : Varṇamālā. ]
1411. Varnāśā—Rv.—No. 130.
1412. Varuna—Rg.—No. 130.
1413. Vasudhāra—Mt.—The Vasus have their eight mansions (āyatanāni) on the Vasudhāra mountain. (39. 44)
1414. Vasudhāra—Mt.—Nos. 147, 584, 1022.
1415. Vasumatī—Rv.—No. 108.
1416. Vasumodaka—Vr.—No. 1099.
1417. Vātadhānas—D.—( No. 130 ). [ Ka : Vādhadhānas. ]
1418. Vātaramhas—Ja.—( No. 108 ). [ Gha and Na : Vātaraṅgas. ]
1419. Vatsa—Mt.—No. 106.
1420. Vatsas—Ja.—No. 130.
1421. Vatsakas—Ja.—No. 108.
1422. Vāyupura—Cy.—Formerly Brahmā founded the Brahmakṣetra, the same as Kurukṣetra [ Gha does not mention Kurukṣetra ]. Here gods, sages and munis dwell. Once Brahmā inquired of the inhabitants whether anybody amongst them had seen the Vāyu-devatā. The sages answered in the negative. While they were thus deliberating they happened to see the Vāyupura. This city was inhabited by 18000 dvījas and 36000 Śūdras under the leadership of Matariśvan who declared to them : “You are my devotees and shall be known after my name (i.e. the city founded by them will be called Vāyupura). There will be eleven gotras amongst you.” [ From this sentence onwards Kha omits the remaining portion of the chapter ]. Here is a tank which relieves one from all the miseries of life. This tīrtha is famous throughout the world. Here was Hanumat born. Here doth Rudra dwell and it was here that Vāyu installed an image (?) of Vāḍāditya [ Kha : Vāyadā-

ditya]. This Vāḍāditya is none else that Sūrya. Here are the four Kuṇḍas (or tanks), viz., Sūryakuṇḍa, Brahma-kuṇḍa, Rudrakuṇḍa and Harikuṇḍa. Nine fortifications (*durgah*) protect this Kṣetra. The customs of the Vāḍavas (i.e. the people of this Kṣetra) are manifold. There are many resting-houses (*dharmaśālās*) in this Kṣetra, which is situated on the banks of the river Ratnāvati which in the Kali age is called Dṛṣadvati. The forest Sunandava is situated in the vicinity of this Kṣetra. [This whole passage is omitted in Kha, Ga and Na]. (59. 107 ff.)

1423. Vāyupura—Cy.—Yājñavalkya and his disciples incurred the sin of *brahmahatyā* (murder of a Brahmin). They approached Brahmā for this purpose. Brahmā advised them to go to Pavana-pura, to worship the god Vālukeśvara and the eleven Rudras and to have a bath in the four tanks there and that their sin would thus be dissolved immediately. The sages did accordingly and merged themselves into the Sūrya-maṇḍala. Since that time this city of Vāyu is regarded holy. Here was Hanumat born of Añjani. (60. 67 ff.)
1424. Vedaśirṣa—Mt.—No. 385.  
 1425. Vedasmṛti—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1426. Vedavati—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1427. Venumat—Mt.—On it are the three cities of Vidyādhara. (39. 37)
1428. Venumat—Mt.—Nos. 782, 1234.  
 1429. Venumaṇḍala—Vr.—Nos. 673, 674.  
 1430. Venyā—Rv.—No. 130. [Gha : Venva.]  
 1431. Vetālī—Rv.—No. 108.  
 1432. Vetravati—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1433. Vibhāvari—Cy.—No. 826.  
 1434. Videha—Rg.—King Rukmakavaca established his two sons Pari-gha and Hari in Videha. (95. 28)
1435. •Videhas—D.—No. 130.  
 1436. Vidiśā—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1437. Vidrumoccaya—Mt.—No. 674.  
 1438. Vidyādhara—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1439. Vihas—Ja.—No. 569.  
 1440. Vijayasthalas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1441. Vikaṅka—Mt.—Nos. 168, 782.  
 1442. •Vākīrṇā—Rv.—No. 569.  
 1443. Vimocinī—Rv.—No. 1108.  
 1444. Vinaśana—Tī. ?—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 67)  
 1445. Vindhya—Mt.—In the vicinity of this mountain Viśvāmitra managed Triśaṅku's entry into the heaven. [Omitted in Ka, Ga, Gha and Na]. (88. 113)
1446. Vindhya—Mt.—Nos. 64, 130, 236, 470, 576, 599, 1061, 1256.  
 1447. Vindhya—P. ?—No. 842.  
 1448. Vindhya-mūlikas.—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1449. Vipāśā—Rv.—Agni loved her. [Omitted in Na]. (29. 14)

1450. Vipāśā—Rv.—No. 130<sup>a</sup>.  
 1451. Vipula—Mt.—No. 819.  
 1452. Virāja—Mt.—No. 713.  
 1453. Virudha—Mt.—No. 106.  
 1454. Viśadhāra—Mt.—No. 820.  
 1455. Viśākha—Mt.—There is a mansion of Guha on this mountain.  
 (39. 55)  
 1456. Viśākha—Mt.—Nos 31, 820.  
 1457. Viśālā—Cy.—Trnabindu had a son named Viśāla who founded  
 the city of Viśālā. (86. 15-7)  
 1458. Viśālā—Mt.—No. 569.  
 1459. Viśālā—Rv.—No. 569.  
 1460. Visarjayas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1461. Viṣṇupada—Mt.—King Dharmaratha drank soma with Śakra  
 [Gha : Sukra] in a sacrifice performed on the Viṣṇupada moun-  
 tain [Ga omits this]. (99. 102)  
 1462. Viṣṇupada—Mt.—No. 907.  
 1463. Viṣṇupadī—Rv.—No. 108 [Ga, Gha and Na : Viṣṇupadā].  
 1464. Vitastā—Rv.—Agni loved her [Omitted in Na]. (29. 13)  
 1465. „ —Rv.—No. 130.  
 1466. Vitala—Rg. ?—No. 1048.  
 1467. Vītihoṭras—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1468. Viṭṇā—Rv.—No. 1108.  
 1469. Vivarṇas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1470. Vrajakas—Ja.—No. 108.  
 1471. Vṛkas—Ja.—No. 130.  
 1472. Vṛṣa—Mt.—No. 106.  
 1473. Vṛṣabha—Mt.—Between the Vṛṣabha and Śaṅkukūṭa mountains is  
 the Parūṣakasthali. There Kinnaras and Urugas drink the juice  
 of Parūṣaka (plants). (38. 63-5)  
 1474. Vṛṣabha—Mt.—Nos. 713, 782.  
 1475. Vṛṣadarbhas—Ja.—No. 705.  
 1476. Vṛṣalas—P. ?—No. 839.  
 1477. Vṛtraghni—Rv.—No. 130.  
 1478. Vyāsātīrtha—Tī.—Śrāddha should be performed at Vyāsātīrtha  
 on the bank of the river Sarasvatī. (77. 67)  
 1479. Vyāsātīrtha—Tī.—Holy for śrāddha. (77. 78)  
 1480. Yadukas—Ja.—No. 910.  
 1481. Yakṣas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1482. Yamadvipa—Dv.—No. 437.  
 1483. Yamunā—Rv.—Agni loved her. (29. 13)  
 1484. „ —Rv.—Its source is holy for śrāddha purposes. (77. 69)  
 1485. „ —Rv.—Yamunā, the best of rivers, was sister of Tvaṣṭr.  
 (84. 84)  
 1486. „ —Rv.—Nos. 130, 307, 308, 1009.  
 1487. Yavanas—P.—They were annihilated by Pramiti at the end of  
 the Kali age. (58. 82)  
 1488. Yavanas—P.—Nos. 130<sup>a</sup>, 345, 842, 844.  
 1489. Yavasas—Ja.—No. 470.  
 1490. Yaudheya—Rg.—No. 891.  
 1491. Yuj.—Mt.—No. 130.  
 1492. Yūthas—Ja.—No. 569.

## APPENDIX B

### I

## ON PLACES OF PILGRIMAGE

In the Vedic literature we find water as a great purifying agent,<sup>1</sup> washing off the sin of the evil-doer and the great sanctity of the water of a river is often mentioned in the RV. But in the Vedas we hear nothing of tīrthas or holy places of pilgrimage. The Jātakas mentioned four *titthas* named Gayā, Timbaru, Doṇa and Bāhukā.<sup>2</sup> Payāga (Prayāga) is also mentioned as a *tittha* for bathing.<sup>3</sup> The Buddhist Suttas state that Lord Buddha told Ānanda, "there are these four places, Ānanda, which the believing man should visit with reverence and awe". They are the places where Buddha was born, where Buddha attained to the supreme and perfect insight, where the kingdom of righteousness was set on foot by the Tathāgata and where Buddha passed away; and "they, Ānanda, who shall die while they, with believing heart, are journeying on such pilgrimage, shall be reborn after death, when the body shall dissolve in the happy realms of heaven."<sup>4</sup> The Jaina Sūtras refer to holy bathing-places and they also mention separate places near rivers, marshes or ponds, where a monk or nun was not to ease nature.<sup>5</sup> Kautīlya mentions tīrtha, sabhā, śālā, etc., as places where the king's agents were advised to do propoganda in favour of the king.<sup>6</sup> Thus, it appears that in the days of Kautīlya, people often assembled at tīrthas. In the Manu-smṛti, however, pilgrimage as understood now does not appear to be popular for he regards visits to Ganges and Kuruksetra as comparatively unimportant.<sup>7</sup> The Mbh. is replete with references to holy places or tīrthas and we find in that great epic the celebrated heroes or sages of tradition visiting holy spots or tīrthas almost as if on a holy campaign. There is a whole subparvan in the Āranyaka Book of the Mbh. devoted to the topic of tīrtha-yātrā (visiting places of pilgrimage).<sup>8</sup> Thus it would appear that in the period represented by the great epic the institution of pilgrimage had become well-known and popular. The Buddha-Carita of Aśvaghōṣa is familiar with separate bathing-places.<sup>9</sup> He is more than familiar with pilgrimages when he utters through Buddha's mouth: "The water that has been touched by the virtuous, that is the spot, if you wish for a sacred spot on the earth; therefore I count as a place of pilgrimage only the virtues of a virtuous man".<sup>10</sup> In the questions of King Milinda we find sacred places familiarly mentioned.<sup>11</sup> In the Institutes of Viṣṇu are mentioned tīrthas called Puṣkaras

1. KEITH, *Religion and Philosophy of the Veda*, (HOS. 32). In the Vedas we find the river Sarasvatī as holy and certain regions as privileged, cf. ERE. 10. 24.

2. FAUSSÖLL's edition, 5. 388 G 199.

3. *Ibid*, 6. 198. G 837.

4. SBE. 11. 90-91.

5. SBE. 45. 56; 22. 182.

6. P. 22.

7. ERE. 10. 24.

8. T. S. Shejwalkar, BDCRI. 5. 205 ff.

9. SBE. 49 (i), p. 8, 22.

10. *Ibid*. 74.

11. *Ibid*. 35. 139.

which confer eternal bliss on the giver in śrāddha. Equally fruitful is the efficacy of the muttering of prayers, offering of burnt oblations and practice of austerities at such places. Mere bathing in Puṣkara means purification of sin.<sup>12</sup> The work also contains a list of tīrthas belonging mostly to the Deccan. This list, however, is considered to be a later addition to the text.<sup>13</sup> The Viṣṇu-smṛti further says that by visiting tīrthas some minor offenders<sup>14</sup> become pure and that visiting places of pilgrimage is a duty, among others, common to all the castes.<sup>15</sup> He enjoins that ferrymen and officials at toll-offices should not levy toll on one about to visit a place of pilgrimage and asks them to restore it if it had been already levied.<sup>16</sup> He further adds that even the company of one purified by visiting a place of pilgrimage is itself sanctifying.<sup>17</sup> Thus it would appear that by the time of the compilation of this work places of pilgrimage have grown all over the country.

It appears that the institution of pilgrimage was first started by the Buddhists and this appears more probable when we consider the references of the Manu-smṛti in this connection. Later on, however, it had become common to all religions and by the time of the Institutes of Viṣṇu, it had become an established institution even with the Brahmins. The Brahmins seem to have developed the Buddhist institution of pilgrimage on the lines of their institutions. The Buddhists regarded as holy the places connected with the life of Buddha, while the Brahmins knowing the sanctity of the river and the efficacy of bathing in its water enlarged the sacredness by developing the great institution of pilgrimage. The impulse to travel was already there when Indra (in Ait. Br. vii, 5) said to Hariścandra "There is no happiness for him who does not travel; living in the society of men, the best man often becomes a sinner; for Indra is the friend of the traveller. Therefore wander".<sup>18</sup>

In the Vāyu we often find references to tīrthas as situated on river-banks and the sanctity of the river-water is often mentioned in its geographical chapters. The peculiarity of the Vāyu information is that it associates the tīrthas mostly in connection with the śrāddha ceremonies and occasionally with the incarnations of the gods Viṣṇu and Śiva. The only clear reference to tīrtha or holy place of pilgrimage in the genealogical lists occurs in connection with king Gādhi, father of the famous Viśvāmitra. But this reference occurs in the course of a narration which is undoubtedly a myth, pure and simple. This is really very significant as compared with the evidence of epic on the matter. As compared with the information of the Viṣṇu-smṛti our Purāṇa does not appear to be very elaborate.

12. *SBE*. 7. 256 ff.13. See JOLLY, *Introduction*, p. xxx.14. *SBE*. 7. 133.15. *Ibid.* 13.16. *Ibid.* 36.17. *Ibid.* 254.18. *ERE*. 10. 24.

## II

## TIRTHAS OR PLACES OF PILGRIMAGE

Tirthas are occasionally glorified in the Purāṇa. It is said that even a sinner—if he is a believer—is bereft of his sin if he pays a visit to tirthas, what then of a man of virtues? Such a person escapes his fets in chauldron and hell and finds a way to heaven and ultimately achieves mokṣa.<sup>2</sup> But there is an addenda that dhyāna (meditation) is the best tirtha.<sup>3</sup> Gayā is said to be such a tirtha that those in hell go to heaven and those in heaven achieve mokṣa by offering *piṇḍas* there. Many more are the merits of this tirtha.<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of achieving mokṣa and for a place in heaven, gifts at tirthas are recommended to be particularly meritorious.<sup>5</sup>

A tirtha is a place where gods come down on the earth on certain occasions. The Brahma-ksetra (i.e. the same as Kurukṣetra or Vāyupura) was founded by Brahmā and here gods, sages and munis dwell.<sup>6</sup> It is said that at the end of a yuga Visnu is born as man in Brahmakṣetra.<sup>7</sup> Śiva too "will have" his incarnations at tirthas. We are again told that in the two tirthas of Śālagrāma and Kāśyapa (?) Dharma is actually seen in person.<sup>8</sup>

The sanctity of the tirthas is indicated by the fact that they are places where men are purified of their sins. Yājñavalkya was responsible for the death of a Brahmin Devamitra Śākalya and thus he and his disciples were affected by the sin of brahmanicide (*brahma-hatyā*). But they were purified of this sin by a bath in the four tanks at Vāyupura.<sup>9</sup> The sacredness of the tirthas, however, is more pronounced in the performance of śrāddha there. The śrāddha chapters of the Purāṇa are very eloquent on the merits of śrāddha performances at tirthas and most of the tirthas included in the appendix are found mentioned in the Purāṇa mostly for this very reason.

The tirthas are shown situated on the river-banks and in some cases on the tops of the mountains. The Vyāsātirtha was situated on the banks of the river Saraswatī.<sup>10</sup> The river Vārāṇsī is said to be streaming along holy tirthas<sup>11</sup> and rivers are frequently described in the geographical chapters as containing holy waters due to tirthas. For instance the river Gaṅgā "is the best of rivers and is the source of waters for

1. Cf. *tīrthāni anusarandhiraḥ śrāddadhāno jīvendriyah kṛta-pāpā ca sudhyeta kim puṇaḥ śubha-karma-kṛt*; 77 125.

2. Cf. 77. 126.

3. Cf. *dhyānam tīrthaparam*, 77. 128.

4. Cf. No. 321 App.

5. Cf. 83. 102-5.

6. Cf. No. 1422 App. A for details.

7. Cf. No. 151 App. A.

8. *Sākhā* 77. 87-91.

9. For details cf. No. 1423 App. A.

10. See No. 1482 App. A.

11. Cf. *puṇya-tīrtha-taraṅginī* 48. 39.



all the tīrthas''.<sup>12</sup> The great tīrtha of Vāyusthāna (i.e. Vāyupura) is said to be situated on the banks of the river Ratnāvati, which in this Kali age is known as the Dṛśadvati.<sup>13</sup> We are told that by having a bath at the Kanakanandi tīrtha one goes to heaven.<sup>14</sup> In the Kośalā (tīrtha?) there is a pond or well (vāpī) and by bathing here one is said to go to heaven.<sup>15</sup> It is unnecessary to mention the names of rivers whose waters are described in the geographical chapters as simply holy.

In the only reference to tīrtha in the genealogical portion of the Purāṇa, King Gādhi, on his way to holy places of pilgrimage, arrived at the hermitage of the Bhārgava Ṛcika who was his son-in-law.... This reference occurs in connection with the story which purports to narrate the birth of Jamadgani with the lustre of a Kṣatriya and of Viśvāmitra with the lustre of a Brahmin due to transfer of *Carus*, apparently unknowingly, which were meant by the sage Ṛcika for his own wife and for his mother-in-law for the purpose of begetting a son.<sup>16</sup>

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12. Cf. No. 297 App.

13. Cf. No. 1422 App. A ; cf. also Nos. 686, 1197, 297, App. A.

14. No. 504 App.

15. No. 601 App.

16. 91, 67 B.

[ This Index does not include the names of Ornaments (pp. 88-9 and 208-10), Food-Preparations (pp. 91 and 211), Musical Instruments (pp. 98-9 and 217-8), Weapons (pp. 102-6 and 224-9), Plants (pp. 108-13 and 231-7), Animals (pp. 114-20 and 238-40), and of Places and Tribes (pp. 241-332), which are already alphabetically arranged and discussed in the Chapters concerned and in the Appendix A. ]

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|----------------|------|--|--|
| 11             | 3    | <i>symantaka</i>                       | <i>syamantaka</i>                      |
| 22             | 8    | ( <i>ṛṣanti mahat</i> )                | ( <i>ṛṣanti</i> ) <i>mahat</i>         |
| 27             | 12   | state                                  | state is                               |
| 43             | 33   | Śādhya                                 | Sādhyas                                |
| 43             | 39   | <i>bhārgavo</i>                        | <i>Bhārgavo</i>                        |
| 68             | 8    | ś āddha                                | śrāddha                                |
| 79             | 21   | kroṣa                                  | krośa                                  |
| 81             | 31   | end                                    | and                                    |
| 88             | 16   | Śūras                                  | Suras                                  |
| 100            | 6    | and                                    | (to be omitted)                        |
| 101            | 33   | mysterious reference<br>to the chariot | reference to the<br>mysterious chariot |
| 101            | 38   | inexhaustive                           | inexhaustible                          |
| 155            | 33   | Hari Vamśa                             | Harivamśa                              |
| 171            | 34   | Ṣamiti                                 | Samiti                                 |
| 185            | 19   | Upaniśesvara                           | Upamiteśvara *                         |
| 199            | 28   | it and                                 | and it                                 |
| 213            | 7    | Dealer                                 | dealer                                 |
| 214            | 1    | Paruṣaka                               | Paruṣaka                               |
| 215            | 23   | The                                    | (ii) The                               |
| 215            | 30   | The                                    | (iii) The                              |
| 231            | 17   | given                                  | discussed                              |
| 261            | 34   | Ganges                                 | Jumna                                  |
| 263 }<br>265 } | 1    | Identification of                      | Alphabetical list                      |

ff.

